

原水爆禁止2018年世界大会

2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Hiroshima and Nagasaki, August 2-9, 2018



Organizing Committee
World Conference against A and H Bombs

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Main Theme:

For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World



Organizing Committee
World Conference against A and H Bombs

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2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Declaration of the International Meeting

The atomic bombs used by the United States of America on August 6 and 9, 73 years ago brought on the unprecedented tragedies to Hiroshima and Nagasaki that the humans had ever experienced in history. The two cities were totally ruined in an instant, and the lives of some 210,000 people were lost by the end of the year. The Hibakusha who barely survived the moment have been tormented by the after-effects of the bombs, including radiation. The nuclear weapons, which cause catastrophic humanitarian consequences, should never be used again for any reason whatsoever. Assembled here in Hiroshima, we decry that nuclear weapons remain the greatest threat to the survival of the human race and therefore call for actions to completely eliminate them without any further delay.

Our friends in Hiroshima, who were hit by the recent record-breaking heavy rain, made determined and dedicated efforts to make this conference possible, while at the same time engaged in the relief and recovery work in the extreme heat. We express our deep appreciation and unlimited solidarity to them for these efforts.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) adopted by the UN conference on July 7, 2017 marked a historic step forward towards a world without nuclear weapons. During the year since then, civil society movements, including Hibakusha, joined forces with governments that support the treaty to make headway toward achieving the total abolition of nuclear weapons on the strength of the TPNW.

With the TPNW open for signature and ratification, conflicts between the countries that stand in favor and those that resist and oppose it are getting sharper.

Nuclear powers, claiming that the “nuclear deterrence” is essential to global security and denouncing the TPNW, are modernizing their nuclear arsenals and strengthening their policy to use them. The Trump Administration reinforced its readiness to use nuclear weapons in its new “Nuclear Posture Review” and is promoting the development of low-yield nuclear weapons. The Putin Government of Russia, too, is developing new nuclear weapons, as well as the doctrine of the first use of its tactical nuclear weapons. The rekindled nuclear arms race between the two is evidence that the “nuclear deterrence” endangers security, and does not ensure it. The “unequivocal undertaking” of the “complete elimination of their nuclear arsenals”, which nuclear weapon states accepted in 2000 in the framework of the NPT, and the “special effort to establish the framework” for it agreed in 2010 should be honored.

The trend for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, however, is steadily growing as a mainstream in the world. Nothing can prevent the TPNW from entering into force. The nuclear powers’ resistance is neither firmly grounded nor has it any prospect for the future. It is evident that the doctrine of “nuclear deterrence” based on the assumption to actually use nuclear weapons, cannot but cause irrevocable damage to humanity. As seen in the voting results of the relevant UN resolutions, those who support the argument to regard nuclear weapons as necessary for their security are limited to the nuclear powers themselves and their allies. The nuclear deterrence doctrine is not persuasive and is further losing ground.

The key to advancing to “a world without nuclear weapons” is the development of public support and movement. The world is now keen to listen to the appeal of the Hibakusha, and the role of civil society in the international arena is dramatically increasing. If we build further on such cooperation

between civil society and governments that led to the adoption of the TPNW, we can make headway by overcoming various obstacles. Many recent polls show that the majority of the citizens want their governments to join the TPNW, and large numbers of local governments and assemblies also urge its signing and ratification. It is particularly important to build up the movements and the public pressure in the countries possessing nuclear weapons or staying under the “nuclear umbrella”.

With the ROK-DPRK Summit and the US-DPRK Summit, the historic move toward the denuclearization and the establishment of a peace regime in the Korean Peninsula has started. We heartily welcome this development. The World Conference against A and H Bombs has consistently called for the peaceful settlement of the crisis. The present development is supported by the opinion of the people around the world for peace and against nuclear weapons. The driving force to complete this process also lies in public opinion. We call on all the parties concerned to engage in negotiations in good faith to reach the declared goals and to implement the points agreed. If the hostility beginning with the Korean War is ended and the North East Asia turned to a base of dispatch of messages for peace and denuclearization, its positive impact on the development of the whole Asia and the rest of the world will be immeasurable.

The creation and the consolidation of nuclear weapon-free zones and achieving the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty remain important. Convening of an international conference for the establishment of a zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East, unanimously resolved by the 1995 NPT Review Conference and further agreed by the 2010 NPT Review Conference, as well as achieving denuclearization and peace in the region is an urgent task. Given that the US Trump Administration has violated the JCPOA, the agreement with Iran, we will hold fast to calling for the diplomatic solution of the problem. The peaceful settlement of regional disputes is crucial to moving forward to “a world without nuclear weapons”. We call for a solution to the Palestinian issue based on the right to self-determination and justice. We further call for an end to the use of force and military intervention in Syria and intensified diplomatic efforts to help achieve the settlement of the civil war through political dialogue.

We express our solidarity with the movement for a nuclear-free, peaceful Japan. Now more than ever Japan is urged to play the role befitting the only A-bombed country. The Government of Japan, however, is eliciting both disappointment and criticism by staunchly opposing the TPNW. It should sign and ratify the treaty immediately. The problem at the root of this attitude is its deep reliance on the so-called “nuclear umbrella”, the extended nuclear deterrence provided by the United States. As the country that knows the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan should firmly refuse the policy that assumes the use of nuclear weapons. The build-up of US bases in Japan, forced to proceed under the pretext of the “threat of North Korea” should stop immediately. We express our solidarity to the people of Okinawa and demand that the ongoing plan of constructing a new US base at Henoko, which infringes the dignity of the Okinawan people, should be scrapped immediately. Diplomacy based on and honoring Article 9 of the Constitution, which declares the renunciation of war and the possession of war potentials, is the right way to join the current for peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

To respond to the desire of the Hibakusha for seeing a world without nuclear weapons in their lifetime, and to actually move the world in that direction, building the public support and the movement is now all the more important. To defeat the “nuclear deterrence” doctrine, the key is to reveal the inhuman nature of nuclear weapons. It is crucial for the Hibakusha and civil society, together with younger generation, to urgently appeal for the achievement of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons while endeavoring to make the damage and aftereffects of the A-bombings widely known.

In addition to urging national governments to join the TPNW, we must expand our cooperation

with various other movements as well as the efforts made on the governmental level, thus further developing cooperation between civil society movements and governments.

Now is the time to build a grand-scale movement to open a wide path to “a nuclear weapon-free world”, overcoming the resistance of pro-nuclear forces. While pressing for the earliest possible entry into force of the TPNW, in view of the 2020 NPT Review Conference, let us urge the five nuclear weapon states to implement all the agreements they have thus far accepted and fulfill their responsibility and obligations under Article 6 to conduct nuclear disarmament negotiations. Following Pyeongchang, the Olympic Games will take place in Asia in succession (Tokyo 2020 in summer and Beijing 2022 in winter). Let us use these opportunities to build a peace regime in North East Asia, as well as a nuclear weapon-free Korean Peninsula, to make this region a foundation for sending out messages for a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons.

We propose the following actions around the world:

- With the international campaign to collect hundreds of millions of signatures in support of the Hibakusha Appeal by 2020, the 75th year of the atomic bombing, as our core action, let us develop a variety of actions and international cooperation calling for a nuclear weapon-free world. Many more opportunities should be created to exhibit A-bomb photo panels and hear the testimonies of the Hibakusha, combining them with nuclear disarmament actions planned in each country. Let us plan international joint actions on such occasions as the disarmament deliberations of the 73rd Session of the UNGA (from September through December 2018) and the Third PrepCom (April-May 2019 in New York) of the 2020 NPT Review Conference.

- For the relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, we support their demand for justice and the State compensation. We support the nuclear test victims in their demand for international relief. We call for relief to the victims of TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPP accidents and for all other nuclear victims. We will work in solidarity with the movement demanding ZERO nuclear power plants. Let us support the victims of the Agent Orange, depleted uranium, chemical weapons and other war victims.

- Let us call for the peaceful settlement of regional conflicts. Let us unfold actions for the drastic cut in military expenditures and for the reduction and dismantling of foreign military bases.

- Let us expand solidarity and cooperation with movements for environmental protection, to stop global warming, eradication of poverty and the social gap, improvement of the living standards and social welfare, an end to all forms of discrimination and realization of gender equality and social justice, and for the protection of human rights and democracy.

The adoption of the TPNW demonstrates that the world is moving from the superpower domination to a new era where all nations will decide on common issues facing the world on an equal footing. It will be the era where civil society will be able to contribute to the solution of internationally important problems by forming public opinion. With deep conviction on such developments, let us move forward to achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

August 4, 2018
International Meeting,
The 2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs

Letter from Nagasaki to All National Governments

Assembled in Nagasaki, the second city to have been A-bombed following Hiroshima 73 years ago, we call on all national governments to redouble your efforts to achieve “a world without nuclear weapons”.

TANIGUCHI Sumiteru*, known as the “Postman of Nagasaki” who devoted himself to appealing globally for the elimination of nuclear weapons, with the scars of third degree burns all over his back, left his final message shortly before he died in August last year. He said, “I fear what will happen to our collective memory after all the Hibakusha have died... I want every effort be made to get rid of nuclear weapons without a moment's delay”.

For decades, the Hibakusha, the A-bomb survivors, have shared their difficult experiences with people and exclaimed that humans and nuclear weapons cannot coexist. We urge all government leaders to sincerely listen to the Hibakusha and take action for the survival of humanity.

The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki evidenced what catastrophic humanitarian consequences the use of nuclear weapons would bring about. These tragedies should never be repeated under any circumstances. Over fourteen thousand warheads which still exist in the world are threatening the survival of humanity. To save the human race from this danger and protect the peace and security of all nations, the complete elimination of nuclear weapons is the only way forward.

“A world without nuclear weapons” is a common aspiration of humankind. The adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted by the UN Conference on July 7 last year marked a historic step forward to reach this goal, which has kindled hope among Hibakusha and many others throughout the world. Yet, we must overcome many difficulties and obstacles to advance to the goal. To open the prospect for peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons, we appeal to all national governments to take the following actions:

- Sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons without delay; promote international cooperation to ensure that the TPNW enter into force, based on the spirit of the treaty;
- Carry out the “unequivocal undertaking” to “achieve the complete elimination of nuclear arsenals” agreed upon by the major nuclear weapons states in 2000, the “special effort to establish a framework” for it, and the obligation under Article 6 of the NPT to hold disarmament negotiations; implement the resolution adopted in 2010 to convene an international conference on the creation of a nuclear weapon-free zone in the Middle East immediately;
- Encourage educational activities on the inhumanity of nuclear weapons, such as hearing the testimonies by Hibakusha, organizing photo-panel exhibitions on the damage by the A-bombings, and providing assistance in the signature collection campaign in support of the International Hibakusha Appeal and support a variety of other activities by civil society groups.

Achieving “a world without nuclear weapons” requires cooperation between governments and civil society. We heartily appeal for everyone to join hands to reach the goal.

No More Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis! No More Hibakusha! Nagasaki should remain the last place that suffered a nuclear bomb attack!
August 9, 2018

**Taniguchi Sumiteru was a Co-Chairperson of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) and one of the original initiators of the International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign.*

International Meeting 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs

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



Opening Session (August 3)

Address of the Organizer:

Noguchi Kunikazu
Co-Chair, Steering Committee,
Organizing Committee

Let me take this opportunity to express my deep condolences to the more than 220 people who lost their lives in the rain disaster in July mainly in western Japan. I also offer my heartfelt sympathy to those who were injured and whose homes were damaged. Over 40,000 houses were totally or partially destroyed or inundated with flood water. The damage inflicted by the disaster was particularly severe in Hiroshima Prefecture. In fact, about half of all victims were located in Hiroshima Prefecture. Gensuikyo has received many

messages of inquiry and sympathy from overseas friends as well as delegates to the World Conference.

Portions of railroads and expressways were heavily damaged, some sections so heavily that it will take months or even years to repair them. In a severe heat wave that was said to be just as dangerous as the natural disaster, the effort to recover from the devastation caused by heavy rain has just started. I would like to thank our colleagues and friends in Hiroshima, Okayama, and other prefectures in the western Japanese regions of San-in, Shikoku and Kyushu for working very hard to host the World Conference against A and H Bombs in spite of the many difficulties. I hope that these regions will recover from the disaster as early as possible and that as many people as possible will participate in the World Conference we are holding from today for a world free of nuclear weapons. I also hope that the

World Conference will give the many participants an opportunity to hear the Hibakushas' stories about their exposure to atomic bomb radiation and the after-effects as well as reports from overseas peace groups.

Allow me on behalf of the organizers of the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs to welcome all participants from abroad and from various parts of Japan. I want to extend my solidarity to all delegates.

This year, we have the honor to welcome government representatives from Ireland, Austria, Mexico, Cuba, and Venezuela - countries that did their utmost to get the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted in a quest for a "*Nuclear Weapon-free, Peaceful and Just world*". Anti-nuclear and peace movement representatives from South Korea and Asia-Pacific region are present at this International Meeting. They are the ones who are making every effort to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula and create a peace system in Northeast Asia. Many international delegates who are playing a great role are here from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and the Americas. They are representatives of the anti-nuclear movement, dedicated grassroots activists, and nuclear radiation victims.

From Japan are heads of local government, people campaigning to collect "30 million signatures" launched by Citizens Action against Abe's Constitutional Revision of Article 9, those people who are campaigning in opposition to the "work style" reform legislation and the Casino legislation, those people who are in the forefront of the movement to end reliance on nuclear power generation and the movement to dismantle US bases, and many Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Three starting points of the Movement against A and H Bombs

The Movement against A and H Bombs grew rapidly after Japanese fishing boats were showered with nuclear fallout from a hydrogen bomb test explosion at Bikini Atoll in March of 1954. Thirty-two million signatures were collected in support of the movement against nuclear weapons. That's almost half of the eligible voters at the time. This nationwide signature campaign against atomic and hydrogen bombs led to the First World Conference against A and H Bombs in August 1955 in Hiroshima, the first city to be attacked with a nuclear bomb. More than 5,000 people from countries in Asia, Europe, the Americas, and elsewhere participated in the World Conference. In September that year, the Preparatory Committee and the National Council for the Petition Campaign merged to form the Japan Council against A and H

Bombs (Gensuikyo). In August 1956, the Second World Conference was held in Nagasaki, the second city to be attacked with nuclear weapons. The Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) was founded during that World Conference.

The First World Conference confirmed that the Movement against A and H Bombs should pursue three objectives: the prevention of nuclear war, a total ban on and elimination of nuclear weapons, and relief for and solidarity with the Hibakusha. The present Movement against A and H Bombs retains these three objectives. Today, 63 years after the First World Conference, there still exist more than 14,000 nuclear weapons on earth.

However, our movement has tenaciously carried on the call for the elimination of nuclear weapons, steadfastly producing results. In July last year, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations with 122 countries, which accounts for more than 60% of U.N. members, voting in favor. For the first time ever, a treaty definitely has outlawed nuclear weapons. While nuclear weapons possessing countries and countries relying on the "nuclear umbrella" refuse to sign or ratify the treaty, they cannot evade political and moral responsibility. It would be correct to say that the adoption of the treaty marked a great turning point towards a "nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world". The year following the treaty's adoption has seen steady progress toward that goal, although there have been retreats as well as advances.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons must take effect without delay

The treaty prohibits the development, testing, manufacturing, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, transferring or stationing of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosives. It also prohibits the use of threat to use nuclear weapons. In addition, it prohibits assistance and encouragement and inducement to the activities forbidden by the treaty as well as stationing, installation and deployment of nuclear weapons. The treaty rejects the doctrine of nuclear deterrence. It would outlaw a national security policy embracing a "nuclear umbrella" to rely on nuclear deterrents provided by any nuclear-armed countries. It can be said that the treaty serves to stigmatize nuclear weapons.

Many people may have already realized that the provisions of the treaty are very similar to what the World Conference has long called for. This means that if people committed to banning and eliminating nuclear weapons are brought together from all over the world to discuss the issue in earnest, the conclusion would always be the same.

In that sense, the treaty represents the achievement of multilateral negotiations and it is also the culmination of many years of discussion we have had in the World Conference. The president of the UN Conference to negotiate a legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, Elayne Whyte, said that the prohibition treaty was realized thanks to the cooperation between the governments of non-nuclear countries and civil society, with Hibakusha as the “driving force”.

The Treaty was opened for signatures on September 20, 2017. It will enter into force 90 days after the 50th country deposits the instrument of ratification of the Treaty. The adoption of the Treaty is only a first step to the elimination of nuclear weapons. As the representatives of the governments of Austria and Mexico, countries that led the discussion in favor of the Treaty, have stated, “there is a lot to do to make this Treaty binding and effective”. The task now is for us to focus on an early entry into force of the Treaty. As of August 2, 2018, the Treaty has been signed by 59 countries and ratified by 13 countries. I hope that the Treaty will enter into force as soon as possible.

Ground-breaking Inter-Korea and US-North Korea summits

On April 27, inter-Korea summit talks took place at Panmunjom. The two leaders signed the “Panmunjom Declaration”. On June 12, the leaders of the U.S. and North Korea met in Singapore and signed a joint declaration. In these two summit meetings, the leaders agreed to commit themselves to denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula and to making efforts to build a lasting and stable peace system in Northeast Asia. Since the U.S.-North Korea summit, some concrete positive steps have been taken. The Pentagon announced that the U.S. would not hold U.S.-South Korea joint military exercises over the next 3 months. North Korea has announced it will cancel nuclear and missile tests and has started to destroy nuclear test sites and dismantle missile firing sites. These moves are all based on the principle of “action for action”. North Korea and South Korea, and North Korea and the U.S. have long been antagonistic toward one another. It is groundbreaking that these countries are taking steps to build new relationships for the sake of their peace and prosperity. The cooperation of the international community with the concerned countries is essential for ensuring a successful “peace process” leading to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the establishment of peace in Northeast Asia. What is needed most is mobilizing public opinion in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world.

Let us raise public awareness and increase the movement against nuclear weapons and for peace on the strength of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

While the U.S. and North Korea have embarked on the “Peace Process” after overcoming a potentially dangerous situation last year, the nuclear weapon countries have been increasing their resistance in order to hold on to the prerogatives they have enjoyed to date thanks to nuclear weapons. The Trump administration in February published the “Nuclear Posture Review” that reaffirmed its policy to modernize its nuclear arsenals and develop more usable small nuclear weapons, making clear that it is ready to use nuclear weapons first. Russia’s Putin administration in his annual Presidential Message announced measures to counter the U.S. posture, including the development of new intercontinental ballistic missiles and cruise missiles that can be loaded with nuclear warheads.

Japan’s government led by Prime Minister Abe Shinzo is clinging to its “nuclear umbrella”. Even though Japan is the only nation to have been attacked with nuclear weapons in war, the government is turning its back on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making clear that it will neither sign nor ratify the Treaty. The Abe government is incapable of correctly understanding the changing situation on the Korean Peninsula where dialogue has started between South and North Korea, and between the U.S. and North Korea. It is doing nothing other than calling for bringing stronger pressure to bear on North Korea. The Abe government is going against the growing global trend of supporting the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons. How shameful it is for the Japanese government to base its national security on a “nuclear umbrella” that has been declared illegal. The Japanese anti-nuclear and peace movement of a country that once experienced the scourge of nuclear war in Hiroshima and Nagasaki must continue to urge the Abe government to reconsider its policy relying on a “nuclear umbrella” and to sign and ratify the Prohibition Treaty.

The overwhelming majority of the Japanese people opposes war and the revision of Article 9. They are also against coverups, falsification of official documents and taking national politics into his own hands as seen in the scandals involving school operators Moritomo Gakuen and Kake Gakuen. They tend to be withdrawing support from the Abe government. Circles of cooperation are growing at the national level on various fronts ranging from opposing the construction of a new U.S. military base in Okinawa to demanding an end

to relying on nuclear power generation.

What drives international politics is not a handful of big powers. It is the governments of the majority of countries and civil society. As UN officials and national government representatives often point to the role of civil society, the most important task is for us to raise public awareness and strengthen the movement in each country of the world. We must use the momentum generated by the Prohibition Treaty to spread the knowledge about the damage and aftereffects of the atomic bombings to help increase the effort to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons. Let us do it in particular by actively mobilizing ourselves in the international petition campaign proposed by the Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Let me conclude my speech on behalf of the Organizing Committee by expressing the hope that the World Conference against A and H Bombs that starts today will be a decisive forum for rallying forces in the Japanese antinuclear and peace movement and defining a concrete agenda for achieving the Peace Process through denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and establishment of a peace system in Northeast Asia to accelerate the momentum for the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons.

Greetings on Behalf of the Hibakusha:

Oshita Katsunori Assistant Secretary General Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)

I am Oshita Katsunori from the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, or Nihon Hidankyo. It's a great honor to speak before you at the International Meeting of the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Let me begin by expressing my condolences and sympathy to the many people affected by the recent heavy rain in western Japan, particularly Hiroshima, one of the hardest hit areas.

Today, 73 years after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are having a summer heat like we experienced when the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima at 8:15 am on August 6, 1945. I was two years old. I was lying in the lap of my mother in a farmer's house about 3.5 km west of what would become the epicenter. I have no memory of the devastation or the inferno. The

seriously damaged roofs and walls of the house were repaired, and I lived there for 21 years until I moved to my present residence in Chiba Prefecture in 1966 to get a job.

I breathed the air there, drank water taken from the same old well, and ate locally produced vegetables, fish and meat. Therefore, my body without doubt has been affected by "internal" and "external" radiation exposure and the genes were damaged. I believe that I have lived to this day simply because the vital genes were not damaged.

I entered junior high school in 1956. I traveled to and from school by tram, which passed by the "A-bomb Dome" that was still left in utter dilapidation. As I used the same tram way to go to senior high and then to the university, the A-bomb dome became a familiar site to me. In those days, there was no peace education in the school curriculum. In daily life, Hibakusha were everywhere in my area and the A-bomb would not come up as a topic of conversation at home; nor did people even really think deeply about the meaning of the A-bomb dome there. Yet the question of why the A-bomb was dropped on Hiroshima remained somewhere in my mind.

After retirement in 2005, I began to research to get an answer to the question and took part in work to help a group of Hibakusha in the city of Chiba. In 2008, I also began to help Yuaikai, a Hibakusha organization in Chiba Prefecture, and finally, in 2015, I started working with Nihon Hidankyo, the only organization networking Hibakusha organizations nationwide. This is how I came to speak in this conference.

The average age of Hibakusha is 82. I am one of those "young" Hibakusha who were exposed to A-bomb radiation as infants or in utero and therefore without any memories of the atomic bombing. But we are already 73 years old or older. I am now 75, above which we are called latter-stage elderlies. My elder brother, who was also a Hibakusha, died of liver cancer at age 75. He was 7 years old when he was exposed to the A-bomb radiation. When the bomb was dropped, he was at elementary school about 4.5km from ground zero. Fortunately, he sustained no injuries and came home on foot. But on his way home he was showered with "black rain". When he arrived home, he was so blackened from head to toe that none of the family could tell who he was. His death from liver cancer 68 years after the atomic bombing was apparently linked to A-bomb disease caused by the black rain. Since I am 5 years younger than he, I live in constant fear that something similar to my brother may happen to me, or that my damaged genes which have so far been quiet may now begin their play. I am increasingly worried about the

effects of radiation in addition to my aging. I want no one else to suffer from such worries as we Hibakusha have.

All Hibakusha have their own lives. They have different ideas. But all Hibakusha share the desire that there must be no more Hibakusha. In July last year, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by the UN Conference but has not yet come into effect. The treaty will enter into force after being ratified by 50 countries. But to date, it has been ratified by no more than 11 countries. Japan, the only A-bombed country, should take the lead in ratifying it and play the role of a bridge between the non-nuclear states and the nuclear powers. It is outrageous that the country is actually opposing the treaty on the grounds that it is relying on the “nuclear umbrella”. As a Hibakusha, I am really infuriated by the Japanese government opposition. The nuclear weapons are absolute evil and not necessary evils, weapons of the devil, which do not need to exist on earth.

The Hibakusha want nuclear weapons to be eliminated in earnest. We started the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal because we want a world without nuclear weapons to be achieved in our lifetimes so that no future generation will be forced into a hell on earth.

Under these circumstances, this campaign has great significance and invigorates us all. The 2017 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) was a great encouragement to us. Let us collect many more signatures in Japan and the rest of the world and build a mountain of signatures in front of the UN headquarters in 2020. I invite each of you to collect signatures from five people and ask them to collect signatures from another five people, asking them to do the same. I cordially ask for your cooperation.

I am still trying to get a clear answer to the question: Why was the A-bomb dropped on Hiroshima? Meanwhile I have been speculating that it was for the US to save face after squandering a huge amount of money on the Manhattan Project, or to show off its power, or to conduct human experimentation. There was no necessity at all to drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. I will continue my research and study on my own.

I will conclude my speech on behalf of the Hibakusha by hoping that the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which is taking place under the theme, “For a nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world”, will be successful and meaningful for all participants from around the world.



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

Alexander Van der Bellen
Federal President
Republic of Austria

The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has shown us directly the devastating and long-lasting impacts of nuclear weapon explosions. And today, more than 70 years later, an alarmingly high amount of 14.500 of these same weapons are still being stockpiled around the world, threatening our very existence. The only way to eliminate this threat is to get rid of nuclear weapons altogether. The existence of even a single nuclear warhead is an unacceptable risk, given the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of a nuclear weapon explosion.

But instead of disarmament, the prevailing trend seems to be modernization of nuclear arsenals, leading to a new arms race triggering more tensions and a heightened risk for all of us. These weapons cannot provide protection and their continued maintenance entails great risks to all of us, including those who possess them. Accidental nuclear weapon detonations remain a very real danger. Malfunctions, false alarms and misinterpreted information have led to numerous instances where the incidence of an accidental nuclear detonation has hung on a razor's edge. As long as there are some States that refuse to dispose of their nuclear weapon arsenals, there will be others who will want them too.

Particularly in view of the potential humanitarian consequences, progress in the field of nuclear disarmament is insufficient. Although the number of warheads has come down substantially since the time of the Cold War, they remain at levels that put the survival of the complete human race at risk. So the full and effective implementation of the legal instruments in this field is of utmost importance.

50 years ago the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was signed, but after all these years the lack of proper implementation of its disarmament pillar is still with us. This undermines confidence in and credibility of the treaty and nurtures proliferation. Also in Europe we are concerned about the nuclear weapons and missile programme of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I welcome the US-DPRK Summit as an important step into the right direction. Building on the positive outcome of

this historic meeting, further diplomatic efforts should bring about the denuclearization of and lasting peace to the Korean Peninsula.

One year ago, on 7 July 2017, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted in the UN. It was a historic step forward towards a world without nuclear weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons fills a key remaining legal gap in international law regarding weapons of mass destruction by establishing a clear-cut prohibition of nuclear weapons, stigmatizing their possession, production, deployment and use or threat of use, at a juncture in history when these weapons have become more of a risk to humanity than ever.

We look forward for all States that are committed to the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons, including, but not limited to, the overwhelming number of States that supported the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, to signing and ratifying the Treaty at the earliest possible date.

We know now more than ever that the risks are too high, the dangers too real. It is time for States, and all those of us in a position to influence them, to act with urgency and determination to bring the era of nuclear weapons to an end. As the UN Secretary General correctly points out in his important new disarmament agenda, "The existential threat that nuclear weapons pose to humanity must motivate us to accomplish new and decisive action leading to their total elimination. We owe this to the Hibakusha and to our planet."

With these words, I thank the organizers of the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs as well as civil society in Japan for their ongoing commitment and work in this field and hope for a future without nuclear weapons, so that no one else has to endure the horrors of nuclear war that has gravely affected the lives of so many innocent people already.



Michel Temer
President
Federative Republic of Brazil

"It is an honour for me to convey this message to the "World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs".

The words that come to my mind when I think of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are: "never again". Never again must we allow that human beings be victims of these terrible weapons.

This Conference pays tribute to the thousands of children, women and men who fell victim to the nuclear bombs that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Their memory will forever remind us of the horrific humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons. Their suffering will forever remind us that the very existence of these weapons constitutes a major threat to international peace and security.

Brazil regrets that, almost 50 years today since the entry into force of the NPT, glaring "compliance deficits" still remain with respect to the elimination of nuclear arsenals. More than two decades after the end of the Cold War, there is an estimated number of 17.000 nuclear warheads (of which more than 4.000 are in deployed status) under the control of states parties and non-parties of the NPT.

The destructive capacity of nuclear weapons is indiscriminate and disproportional. As demonstrated in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, their use would necessarily entail severe and wide-ranging consequences of humanitarian concern. It would be impossible, for instance, to distinguish between the destruction of military and civilian targets, or between combatants and non-combatants.

Having these concerns in consideration, the United Nations decided to adopt, in 2017, a legally-binding instrument that, once and for all, outlaws these weapons. By banning the only category of weapons of mass destruction yet to be subjected to a global prohibition, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) seeks to stigmatize the possession of the most destructive of all weapons.

Driven by a strong sense of responsibility and urgency, Brazil and a group of more than a hundred-and-twenty States that supported the TPNW were convinced that the current security environment allows no room for procrastination. Humanity cannot afford to wait for the "right time" to come to do away with nuclear weapons. We must eliminate them without any further ado.

Today, once again, as we pay homage to the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Brazilian government and people call upon the nuclear-armed States to show real political resolve and

intensify their efforts so that we reach the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

In this effort, we count on the support of important civil society organizations, such as Gensuikyo."

Michael D. Higgins
President
Republic of Ireland

It is an honour and a privilege to once again convey a message of solidarity to the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs and to have this opportunity to express Ireland's support for your tireless efforts to bring global attention to the threats posed by the continued existence of nuclear weapons.

In the 73 years since Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the shadow cast by the threat of nuclear weapons has grown substantially. So too, however, have the collective and ethically grounded actions and efforts of civil society and governments alike. Such efforts are critical if we are to ensure that the appalling scenes of devastation in Hiroshima and Nagasaki are never repeated.

The importance of your work in this regard should not be underestimated. It reminds us that we are engaged in disarmament not for its own sake but because of the effects that these terrible weapons have had on the many human beings who have suffered the appalling and generational consequences of the use of the most destructive weapon ever invented. The core of arms control and disarmament is its humanitarian purpose, and this purpose must not become lost in traditional and sometimes abstract international security debates.

The work of this conference in highlighting the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons helped lay the foundations for the negotiations leading to the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The Treaty is truly ground-breaking, not only in its prohibition of nuclear weapons but also in its provisions on victim assistance and cooperation, on environmental remediation, and its recognition of the role of disarmament education. Given the key role played by survivors and the impact that their powerful testimony has around the globe, it is wholly fitting that the role of the Hibakusha is directly and prominently referenced in the Treaty.

Ireland shares the desire to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons and I am proud of Ireland's role in the process leading to the adoption of the Treaty. It builds on Ireland's long-standing advocacy for nuclear disarmament and we are certain that the

new Treaty will strengthen and complement the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to which we remain deeply committed. Like the NPT, the Prohibition Treaty demonstrates what can be achieved through effective and responsible multilateralism, even during a time of increasing uncertainty in the international environment. Both treaties are reminders that we must meet challenges that threaten to erode the fundamental tenets that underpin our multilateral, rules-based system with action, not inertia.

The progress made in recent years will no doubt be celebrated at this year's Conference, but there is still work to be done and significant challenges to confront. The conclusion of the Treaty last year is very much the beginning of a new phase of work that we must undertake to achieve tangible progress toward a world free of nuclear weapons; a world where the human and financial resources dedicated to weapons of mass destruction are instead focussed on the abolition of poverty and the attainment of true human security as set out in the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Oslo 2017, Hibakusha Ms. Setsuko Thurlow compared the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to a guiding light. Whilst we will face many more obstacles in the quest to eliminate nuclear weapons, we must never let that light be extinguished.

I would like to wish this conference every success as you continue with your vital work.

Bounnhang Vorachith
President
Lao People's Democratic Republic

On behalf of the Government and People of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I would like to convey my warmest congratulations to the organizing committee and all delegates participating in the 2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs to be held on 02-09 August 2018 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki Prefectures in Japan.

I highly value the convening of this World Conference which has been taking place over the past 70 years in remembrance of the victims of the atomic bombings highlighting the dreadful impact on the lives and properties of the people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki Prefectures.

I am confident that this year's Conference will further enhance the role of the world community in their joint cooperation to fight against and prevent the use of atomic and hydrogen bombs in order to build the world of lasting peace, stability and free from weapons of mass destruction.

Once again, on behalf of the Government and people of the Lao PDR, I wish the 2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs brilliant success. *(Unofficial translation)*

K. P. Sharma Oli
Prime Minister of Nepal/
Patron, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity
Organization of Nepal (AAPSO Nepal)

It gives me pleasure to know that Gensuikyo is organizing the World Conference against A and H Bombs beginning from the 2nd August to 9th 2018, in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the memory of the people who lost their lives in 1945 and afterward too because of the dropping of Atom bombs on those two cities. The Gensuikyo is doing a great job by organizing such a conference from 1955 every year to perpetuate the memory of the victims of the bomb attack first time in the history of human beings. I believe that such a conference of an international repute will help widen the concern of peace loving people around the world in order to bring a moral pressure to the concerned authorities to eliminate the existing A and H bombs so that people in the world could be saved from having to face the fate of people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The participant representatives from around the globe will certainly carry a message of peace and a feeling of an urgent need to discourage the proliferation as well as making of A and H bombs. It is a well-established fact that no country and people will ever win any nuclear war if it even happens on any pretext. We need a total and irreversible reversal of the proliferation of A and H Bombs to save the humanity from human made disaster. It is a responsibility bestowed upon us by the present time, and we cannot have any excuse to escape from this path. We know that the bombs existing now in many countries are strong enough to destroy the earth hundred times bigger than the one we are living on.

It is a collective responsibility and people of all countries should take the issue with an equal urgency and sincerity. Nepal is always in favor of making the earth and space free from nuclear weapons. We want the complete destruction of the existing nuclear weapons and a total ban on further building and developing nuclear weapons whether on the earth or space. We too are surrounded by nuclear power countries, and we understand the pain and gravity of the situation. Nepal has been raising its concern in the international forums consistently and constantly to alert the concerned countries from developing their

nuclear arsenals.

AAPSO Nepal has been participating in the conference organized by Gensuikyo for many years and will continue to do so in future to reassure our solidarity with the people of Japan. I hope the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs will be a great success in achieving its objectives and mission. AAPSO Nepal will actively registering the serious concern and also the commitment to free the world from another nuclear catastrophe caused by our follies and flaws. On behalf of the Government of Nepal and my own, and AAPSO Nepal, I would like to extend my greetings and best wishes for the success of the conference. We pay tribute to the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and we fully support and Solidarity with the Hibakushas the A-bombs sufferers.

On this occasion, we should redouble our efforts to bring a positive change in the globe to save the humanity and the planet, too. And it is possible to make a change if we all get united with a voice of rationality for the sake of humanity.

Greetings to all.

Cyril Ramaphosa
President
Republic of South Africa

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for your letter to me, dated 11 April 2018, as well as to convey my full support to you and the Steering Committee of the 2018 World Conference Against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs.

South Africa stands in solidarity with the international community in its efforts to ensure that the world does not experience a repeat of the destruction and terrible loss of lives that took place in Hiroshima and Nagasaki more than 70 years ago, as we reaffirm our position on the complete ban of nuclear weapons. This year, as we commemorate the Centenary of the birth of our liberation icon, the late President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, allow me to quote from his address to the 53rd United Nations General Assembly in September 1998, when he said "Continuously, we have to fight to defeat the primitive tendency towards the glorification of arms, the adulation of force, born of the illusion that injustice can be perpetuated by the capacity to kill, or that disputes are necessarily best resolved by resort to violent means". Nuclear weapons pose a serious threat to humanity and, therefore, the global community must take concrete steps to finally and completely eliminate them.

As requested in your letter, I herewith wish to convey a Message of Solidarity to the 2018 World

Conference against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs and wish you well in hosting this milestone event.

Trần Đại Quang
President
Socialist Republic of Vietnam

On behalf of the State, people and peace movement of Vietnam, I avail myself of this opportunity to extend our friendship and best regards to international and Japanese participants in the 2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

Over the last 63 years since the first World Conference against A & H Bombs in 1955 - 10 years after the Hiroshima and Nagasaki massacres, peace movements and peace-loving people across the world have spared no effort in the struggle against nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and achieved encouraging results. Such efforts have made a significant contribution to the 1968 Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the 2017 Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and more recently, in 2018, the Inter-Korea Summit and the US-Korea Summit, which opened up new prospects for the settlement of the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula.

Having suffered from consequences of Agent Orange on human beings and the environment, the Vietnamese people are fully aware of the dreadful aftermaths of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction. Vietnam has always been consistent in its policy against nuclear weapons and is one of the first countries having endorsed, signed and ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We have high expectations of the strong development of the world peace movement against nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and for their abolition. We are confident that this year's conference will offer a chance for peace forces and organizations the world over to jointly initiate new activities against nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, reaffirm solidarity with victims of A&H bombs, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims for a world of peace-security, stability and sustainable development.

On this occasion, I would like to express my deep gratitude for the heartfelt sympathy and effective support that peace movements of the world and Japan, including the Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyo), have reserved for Vietnam in our struggle for national independence and reunification in the past as well as our efforts in national construction and development at present.

May I wish the Conference great success!

**The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)
(Presented by Seiko Ishikawa,
Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic
of Venezuela)**

1. It is an honor for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to take the floor during this year's World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

2. At the outset, allow us to thank the distinguished Organizing Committee for its kind invitation to participate in this important World Conference, under the theme "For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World", and which is convened at a time when we mark the 73rd Anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

3. We would also like to avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the People of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki for their kind generosity and hospitality.

4. Since its establishment, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) has remained at the forefront of nuclear disarmament, and has termed nuclear disarmament as its highest priority, while striving towards achieving the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, considering, among others, the threat posed to humanity by the continued existence of nuclear weapons and of their possible use or threat of use.

5. In this regard, it is worth noting that during the XVIII Mid-Term Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), held in April 2018 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Ministers welcomed the multilateral efforts towards nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Moreover, they took note of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination. We hope that, when entered into force, the Treaty would contribute to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

6. The Member States of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) seize this opportunity to reiterate their continued concern over the current difficult and complex situation in the field of disarmament and international security, while calling for renewed efforts to resolve the current impasse in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation in all its aspects.

7. In this regard, they continue to express their deep concern over the long delay in the implementation of the 1995 Resolution on establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the

Middle East, and strongly urge the United Nations Secretary-General and the three cosponsors of the 1995 Resolution on the Middle East to fully implement it without further delay, taking into account that the indefinite extension of the NPT is inextricably linked to the implementation of this Resolution.

8. Moreover, while reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, we reiterate our determination to promote multilateralism as the core principle of negotiations in the area of disarmament and nonproliferation. We must underline that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the UN Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues.

9. In this connection, the Movement emphasizes that progress in nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation in all its aspects is essential to strengthening international peace and security. Therefore, we reaffirm that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

10. To conclude, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) invites the international community to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities, as outlined in resolution 68/32 of the General Assembly of the United Nations; while also inviting it to participate on 26 September 2018 in the UN High-Level Plenary Meeting to observe said day.

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

As an organization that works to protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and to ensure the faithful implementation of international humanitarian law, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is deeply concerned about the potential use and consequences of nuclear weapons. These weapons are unique in their destructive power, in the unspeakable human suffering they cause, in the impossibility of controlling their effects in space and time, and in the threat they pose to the environment and to future generations.

It has been just over a year since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted. It is the first globally applicable

multilateral agreement to comprehensively prohibit nuclear weapons (including the prohibition on use, development, production, acquisition, possession, transfer, testing and threatening to use nuclear weapons). It is also the first to contain commitments to assist victims of nuclear weapons use and testing and to facilitate the remediation of contaminated environments.

The Treaty complements existing international agreements on nuclear weapons, in particular the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and agreements establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones. It confirms that the majority of States unequivocally rejects these weapons on moral, humanitarian and now legal grounds. It also reinforces the stigma against the use of nuclear weapons, supports commitments to nuclear risk reduction and is a clear disincentive for proliferation – all of which are especially important

today with rising regional and international tensions, and the consequent increasing risk of nuclear weapon use.

The ICRC and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement welcomed the adoption of the TPNW as an essential and long-awaited step toward a future free of nuclear weapons. We must however continue to appeal to urgent efforts by all to ensure that nuclear weapons are never again used. Indeed, if a nuclear conflict happened today, there would be no international plan nor capacity to respond adequately to even a limited use of nuclear weapons. The only sound course of action is prevention.

Last but not least, the ICRC would like to commend the Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo) for its invaluable work in support of the victims of the atomic bombings and its persistent efforts to bring the era of such inhumane weapons to an end.



Plenary Session I:

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

Introductory Reports:

Fujiwara Hidefumi, M.D.
Director of Fukushima Coop Hospital,
Hiroshima/ Chair, Commission on A-Bomb
Survivors, Japanese Federation of
Democratic Medical Institutions (Min-Iren)

I am a doctor of internal medicine and work at Fukushima Co-op Hospital located about 1.5 km west of the hypocenter in Hiroshima. Even today, about one third of my patients are A-bomb survivors or Hibakusha. I was born in Hiroshima in 1956, 11 years after the end of WWII. Naturally, I have no experience of the atomic bombing and do not have firsthand knowledge of the damage and after-effects of the bombing. But as a doctor born after World War II, I have been listening to my Hibakusha patients' stories during consultations. They talk haltingly about what the damage and after-effects of the atomic bombing were, about the ordeals they had to endure after the bombing, and about the 73 years of their struggle for life.

More than 70 years since the bombing, Hibakusha have lived embracing a mixture of different feelings. I would like to take this opportunity to talk about how they live today, what their actual living conditions are, and about what they want.

Let me start with what actually happened when the bomb was dropped. As you know, the atomic bomb, a new type of bomb, was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6 and another was dropped on Nagasaki on August 9. It turned out to be a message with implications for the survival of humanity.

According to the report "Effects of A-Bomb Radiation on the Human Body (Ver. 2, HICARE 2012)" based on the records and materials compiled after the atomic bombing, the number of "deaths in the acute stage" by December 1945 was 114,000 in Hiroshima and 73,000 in Nagasaki. These numbers do not include military personnel and people from the Korean Peninsula working in Hiroshima. It is estimated that there were more than 40,000 people from the Korean Peninsula, about

half of whom are believed to have died. No accurate figures are available because all administrative functions had been destroyed.

The aforementioned "Effects of A-Bomb Radiation" shows that as of August 10, 1946, that is a year after the atomic bombings, 118,661 people had died in Hiroshima and 73,884 in Nagasaki. A report made in 1986 to the United Nations said that the "number of deaths in the early stages" was 140,000 ($\pm 10,000$) in Hiroshima and 70,000 ($\pm 10,000$) in Nagasaki.

88.7% of these deceased people died within the first two weeks after the bombing, and almost all others died by the eighth week. Both in Hiroshima and in Nagasaki, about 50% of people who were within 1.2 km of the hypocenter died. 20% died after sustaining external injuries like broken spine or pelvis caused by the bomb blast, another 20% died of radiation disorders, and the remaining 60% died of exposure to heat rays and external injuries sustained in the fire that broke out after the explosion.

Median lethal radiation dose (LD50) is said to range from 2.7 to 3.1 gray (Gy) in terms of bone marrow radiation. That means that 50% of people exposed to 4 sieverts (Sv) of radiation eventually die from it.

As I have discussed so far, the first and foremost feature of nuclear weapons' "inhuman nature" is without doubt its "instantaneousness". Before Hiroshima, did any single bomb used in war kill more than 100 people in one explosion? Maybe a few people or dozens of people, and not more. The atomic bomb, with a massive destructive power 10,000 times that of conventional bombs, has made it possible to kill all citizens of a town at a stroke. Atrocity is what nuclear weapons are about. I think that nuclear weapon states are refusing to give up their nuclear arsenals because of their enormously destructive power.

The second feature is that nuclear weapons kill people indiscriminately. This is another aspect of the inhumanity and it is linked to the instantaneousness. Historically, the outcome of war was affected by fighting between combatants mobilized by states. However, in this nuclear war, an atomic bomb was released and exploded in the

air over the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where people were living their lives as usual. It killed a large number of these non-combatants indiscriminately and instantaneously. The victims included elderly people, women (including pregnant women), students and children. It is painful to think about it. It was a catastrophe that can only be described as an act of extreme inhumanity.

In addition, the nuclear bomb destroyed, and even uprooted, the entire social fabric, including families, civil society and local communities. The third feature of the inhumanity of the bomb is its capacity to exterminate an entire human community. Hibakusha in Hiroshima and Nagasaki lost many of their family members in an instant. As a result, a large number of people were left isolated – elderly people living by themselves, single men, widows, and children commonly referred to as A-bomb orphans. The social infrastructure supporting the livelihood of A-bomb survivors was gone, along with civil society's systems and communities. As a result, many Hibakusha were thrown away by society. Most of them later developed physical and mental after-effects and had to live in extremely difficult conditions.

They faced poverty and many other difficulties in life. Their lives were saved, but they lost their homes and had nowhere to go. They lost their jobs and it wasn't easy for them to find a new job. Children lost opportunities to go back to school and ended up missing out on a proper education. As a result, there are some Hibakusha who cannot count or read properly. Many young women who had keloids on their face or other parts of their body were forced to give up hope of marriage. Due to rumors that radiation was contagious, Hibakusha were often discriminated against. Some chose to keep secret that they are Hibakusha. One Hibakusha told me frankly that he did whatever it took to live, including stealing and cheating. All this shows what an incredible struggle it was for Hibakusha to live. They continue to believe that the bomb totally changed the course of their lives and willingly share with others like me who were born after the war the stories of their lives. I take their feelings into my heart.

Many of the Hibakusha looked forward and started to rebuild their lives. However, about 5 years after the atomic bombing, their relatives and friends one after another developed leukemia and passed away. The fourth feature of the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons is the "lifetime perpetuation" of the effects of radiation exposure on the human body. The Hibakusha live with fear and anxiety about potential health problems linked to exposure to atomic bomb radiation, aware that

they could suffer from such diseases as leukemia and cancer.

Many Hibakusha died in the "acute stages", within about 2 months of being exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb. Those who survived that crucial period must have felt relieved, thinking that they were free of fears of A-bomb diseases. Despite the hardships facing them, the Hibakusha managed to find ways to make a living. Although they had managed to survive, they began to be affected by radiation. In the early stages, they could hardly believe that their deteriorating health was linked to the nuclear bomb, because radiation effects were not widely recognized. Medicine and epidemiology in those days could not elucidate the cause of the health problems afflicting the Hibakusha. Meanwhile, it came to be known that Hibakusha often developed thyroid cancer or breast cancer. It also came to be known that those diseases are linked to exposure to radiation from the atomic bomb. This began to be understood by Hibakusha little by little. At the same time, they were caught by the fear that they might develop cancer. When they were diagnosed as having cancer, they knew that it was because they had been exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb.

Today, it is widely known that the death rate of Hibakusha from cancer is 1.42 times higher than non-Hibakusha. To be precise, for a person who was exposed to 1Sv of radiation at age 30, the relative risk of dying of any solid cancer except for leukemia at age 70 is 1.42 times higher. If the exposure to radiation occurred 10 years younger, the relative risk of death would increase by a further 29% (Life Span Study, RERF, 2012).

In addition, it has become known recently that, compared with non-Hibakusha, all Hibakusha have significantly higher risks of suffering from chronic hepatitis (Wong FL et al. *Radiat Res* 1993), heart infarction (Shimizu Y et al. *BMJ* 2010), as well as non-cancer diseases such as hypertension (Yamada M et al. *Radiat Res* 2004) and chronic kidney diseases (Adams et al. *Radiat Res* 2012p). This means that A-bomb radiation makes survivors suffer throughout life.

However, health damage from radiation exposure is not the only thing that Hibakusha suffer from. They may still be tormented by the reminiscence of the hell on earth they once went through. This can be described as another aspect of the "continuity" of damage from the atomic bombing. Many Hibakusha live with the burden of guilt, for they escaped from fire leaving their parents or brothers and sisters trapped under collapsed houses, or they did nothing for wounded people calling for help at their feet. Their friends died but they survived. They feel that they owe

their lives to their friends who died pitiful deaths. Today, more than 70 years later, those difficult moments they experienced are brought back to life. Such memories are a source of torment for Hibakusha.

I have talked about the inhumane nature of the atomic bomb by citing concrete examples. “Biological weapons” and “chemical weapons” are already banned as weapons against humanity. Nuclear weapons have gigantic destructive power from the nuclear energy and release huge amounts of radiation. They are qualitatively completely different from other weapons. They are against humanity because the extent of the consequences of their use may threaten the survival of all humans. It is not just a matter of Hiroshima and Nagasaki or Japan. We must prevent at any cost the recurrence at any time of such a humanitarian catastrophe before it becomes inevitable. We are called upon to increase international opinion against nuclear weapons to ensure that no nuclear weapons are used on earth. It is my earnest hope that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will be supported by many countries and regions. Let us eliminate all nuclear weapons from the world for the sake of human survival. No more Hibakusha.

Yoshioka Yukio
Hibakusha of Hiroshima/
Vice-President, Hiroshima Federation of
A-Bomb Survivors

I am Yoshioka Yukio, a survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. I was exposed to A-bomb radiation when I was 16 years old in the second year of middle school.

For half a century until the end of the war in August 1945, Japan continuously waged war and caused destruction and killing. The era of war started with the Japanese-Sino War in 1894, followed by the Japanese-Russo War, the First World War, and the Japan-China war, which escalated into the Asia-Pacific War.

When I was in a higher-grade at elementary school, the school ground was plowed and vegetables were grown there because people lacked everything from food to daily necessities.

Boys aged 15 or older were ordered to join the “national service volunteer brigade” to help the country prosecute the war. Equally, girls aged 17 or older were organized into the girls’ volunteer corps. Even middle school students like myself were forced to cooperate with the war for the Emperor or for Japan’s world domination.

We had some classes until the first half of

second year of middle school. From the second half, we were ordered to follow a government “guidance for implementation of student mobilization as part of emergency measures to prepare for decisive battle”. I was mobilized to work at a munitions factory instead of attending classes.

I was then in the second year of middle school and was forced to work every day at the munitions factory. The military ordered us students to help in the demolition of houses to make fire lanes to prevent the spread of the fires caused by US air raids. My class was asked to choose August 5 or 6 for demolition work. As I was the class leader, I performed rock-paper-scissors with my deputy to decide who got to choose the day. I won and my group chose August 5.

On August 6, the other group went to the Hiroshima Prefecture office about 800 meters from the hypocenter of the atomic bombing. All 23 members of that group died within the following three weeks.

August 6 was a day off for us. I went out with my father to collect a bath boiler and bricks from a house located 1.7 kilometers from the hypocenter that had been demolished to create a fire lane.

The moment the atomic bomb fell, I received a blinding flash on my face and lost consciousness. When my father rescued me and called me back to consciousness, I realized that I was about to be engulfed in a sea of flames. I heard women and elderly people screaming. The scene I saw was like a picture of the inferno. Once back home, I fell ill and was delirious with fever as high as 40 degrees Celsius for about 10 days. Fortunately, I survived thanks to my mother and other family members taking good care of me. I would not have survived without my father.

Later, my father and I began losing our hair and having repeated diarrhea because we both had been exposed to a massive dose of radiation. We had blood congestion and purple spots appeared on our skin. My father died 3 months later. He was 54 years old.

At the time, the burns on my back, right leg, and both elbows were infested with maggots. The scars became keloids and covered all sweat pores which made it difficult for me to regulate my body temperature.

A rock-paper-scissors game determined life or death for me and my classmates. This left me with a burden throughout my life.

Thirty-one years after graduating from middle school, I attended a middle school class reunion for the first time. I was asked why I had not taken part in the previous reunions. For the first time in my life I opened my heart to my classmates.

I sometimes felt angry that my father had made

such a desperate effort to save my life. For many years I thought I would not have had to undergo such difficult times or experience this sense of guilt if I had been left to die.

About six months after the atomic bombing, classes resumed at my middle school. Many of my classmates had been killed in the atomic bombing. Those who survived the atomic bombing had difficulty finding jobs or getting married.

After graduating from school, I became a government employee thanks to the good offices of some relatives. However, I felt languid all the time and felt no motivation for anything. Newspapers at the time called this type of condition the "A-bomb Bura-Bura Disease."

I tended to retreat into my shell. Losing hope in my future life, I tried to kill myself several times. I heard that many Hibakusha committed suicide out of despair for their future.

I joined the union and worked to help its activities. I was solicited to talk about my experience of the atomic bombing and began telling my story as a Hibakusha. At first I did it reluctantly, but as I came to realize that my appeal was being heard I found hope to live.

Out of a growing signature collection campaign calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons, the Japan Council against A & H Bombs (Gensuikyō) was formed. Hibakusha created their organization, the Japan Confederation of Atomic- and Hydrogen-Bombs Sufferers' Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo). I participated in the peace movement for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

I have had increasing opportunities to tell my experience. I have shared my story about the atomic bomb at peace study sessions with pupils and students who came visiting Hiroshima. I have also traveled on Hibakusha speaking tours to Colorado in the US, Vancouver in Canada, and Vienna in Austria.

I have lived out my life to make every effort so that the cruel deaths of my 23 middle school classmates and all those killed as a result of the cruel events in Hiroshima and Nagasaki do not remain unrewarded.

We must never allow the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to be repeated. We must be set free of fears or horrors by also doing away with nuclear power plants, which humans cannot control.

The United Nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons last year with 122 countries in favor. It has been signed by 59 countries and ratified by 12 countries.

Since immediately after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Hibakusha have been calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons. We are very happy to see our appeal bear fruit

thanks to the efforts of many people.

But there are nearly 15,000 nuclear warheads in the world. We must never allow their continued existence.

Nuclear weapon countries, which cling to the nuclear deterrence doctrine, and their supporters, including Japan, are desperate to stop the nuclear weapons ban treaty from coming into force. However, the call for nuclear weapons to be abolished represents the voice of an overwhelming majority of the world's people.

I conclude my speech by expressing my hope that this International Meeting of the World Conference against A and H Bombs and any other international conferences will help strengthen the effort to increase public opinion urging national governments to ratify the treaty and clearly show how the treaty will take effect and pave the way for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Kim Seong Un
Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association
Republic of Korea

Dear friends of the World Conference against A and Bombs,

I thank the representatives of international institutions and social movements for having come a long way to participate in this event.

I have from South Korea and am an A-bomb survivor.

While I am honored to join you here, I feel humbled to think of those who have lived in pain and nightmare, unable to forget even now, 73 years later, what they suffered or saw on that day. I also express my deep sorrow to those who died in the atomic bombing 73 years ago.

On August 8, 1945, my three older sisters, a younger sister, and I lived happily together with my father and mother about 1 km from Funairi, Hiroshima. When the atomic bomb fell, my father had already gone to work and was absent. My three elder sisters had gone to school. I heard later that they had followed the teachers' instructions and evacuated from the school building. I was at home with my few-months old little sister and my mother. I was 4 years old then, but I still remember very vividly the sudden explosion sound and the blast, the sight of shelves and tableware all falling from the kitchen wall in a violent tremor, and futons blown out of the house through the window.

Several hours after the bombing, my father came home from work and took the family somewhere to look for refuge. I was told later that we had not stayed there long and finally went back to South Korea. We were able to return to South

Korea some months after the atomic bombing, leaving behind our sad memories. However, my father developed various diseases due to the after-effects of the atomic bombing. He was especially sick in the throat, but he could not get any proper treatment because of the lack of medical facilities in South Korea. He eventually died of lung disease at the age of 64.

I think my father was not the only one to die because of lack of health care facilities. Many Hibakusha repatriates who, with great difficulty, went back home after the atomic bombing, did not receive any care or support and died one after another of different diseases and other hardships in life. It breaks my heart to think that many Korean Hibakusha have left this world, enduring pain and suffering in silence.

Fortunately, they won a lawsuit for annulment of the Japanese system that put an upper limit to subsidized healthcare for the Hibakusha, and today Hibakusha living abroad got able to receive the similar care as their Japanese counterparts. I regret that it came too late, but it is a great help for the Hibakusha who need medical treatment.

However, the current medical care system for the Korean Hibakusha is still inadequate. I hope that the Hibakusha living abroad will be able to receive the equal treatment as the Japanese Hibakusha. I want to stress that most of us will die in a not distant future.

Today's world has yet to break out of the nuclear spiral. The North Korean nuclear threat is still there.

Nuclear destruction should never be repeated anywhere in this world. Nuclear weapons should be neither produced nor used. Nuclear-armed countries should eliminate all their nuclear arsenals to prevent the same tragedy from happening again.

Dear participants, let us work together with peace-loving people of the world to expand the global antinuclear and peace movement to achieve a world of peace, without nuclear weapons.

In concluding, I pray for the rest of the souls of those who died by the atomic bombing. And I wish for the health and happiness of our fellow Hibakusha.

I also extend our best wishes for the health and success of you all representing social movements here with us today.

Sasaki Yu **Fukushima City Assembly Member**

I will report about the present situation, seven years and four months after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant of the

Tokyo Electric Power Company or TEPCO.

Fukushima Prefecture announced on July 5 that the current number of evacuees is 44,865 and the total number of "disaster-related deaths", including those who died due to the hardships imposed by having to evacuate amounts to 2,238. Among these, number of disaster-related suicides has reached 101 as of this moment, and this figure continues to increase.

Even now, evacuation orders are in place for all of Futaba Town and Okuma Town as well as for "difficult-to-return to" zones besides these towns. Although the government at the end of March 2017 lifted evacuation orders for Namie Town, Tomioka Town, Iitate Village and the Yamakiya district of Kawamata Town except for the "difficult-to-return to" zones in these communities, only 18% of the previous residents of those areas have returned as of May 2018 and they suffer many inconveniences every day related to shopping, going to hospitals and finding access to public transportation.

According to the "Second Survey of the Futaba District Residents" made by the Fukushima Future Center for Regional Revitalization attached to Fukushima University, 74.3% of respondents expressed anxiety about their economic situation, and more than 50% said they may be suffering from depression. The survey revealed the serious situation of evacuees, showing that 31.9% of the working-age population between 15 and 64 are still jobless.

Many municipalities, when evacuation orders are lifted, stop providing rent-free housing for the evacuees, but many evacuees are unable or unwilling to return home because they will have to face the heavy burden of paying the rent. The national and local governments should take this fact seriously and continue providing such support to them.

This year, a housing subsidy of 20,000 yen per month is being paid to voluntary evacuees (those who choose to stay away after an evacuation order has been rescinded) but it will end by the end of March 2019. Physically and mentally exhausted after being forced to leave their home and having struggled hard to make a living in the last seven years, many evacuees have developed depression and become unable to work. These problems would not have happened if the nuclear power plant accident had not occurred. In spite that people are still suffering from them, the government has tried to make us believe that they have already been settled.

TEPCO has unilaterally stopped or cut down on the amount it owes to farmers, merchants and manufacturers as compensation. Among about 8,300 cases filed by business operators/farmers

outside evacuation zones demanding payment of the two-year compensation, only 3,200 cases or less than 40 percent have obtained satisfactory settlement. Among 600 cases filed by business operators calling for additional compensation after receiving the two-year's payments, only one has won a settlement. Despite the fact that agricultural products in Fukushima have continued to be sold on markets at prices lower than before the nuclear accident, compensation for many farmers has been cut off.

However, the tenacious struggle by Fukushima residents and citizens throughout Japan has entered a new phase. On June 14 this year, TEPCO President Kobayakawa Tomoaki announced that the company will consider decommissioning all four reactors at the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant. The decision was long overdue, and it came as a result of the voices of outraged Fukushima residents that drove TEPCO management into a corner. The national government in 2014 announced a plan to use nuclear power again as a base-load energy source, increasing its share of total electricity production to 20-22%. TEPCO had at that time even suggested the possible use of the Fukushima Daini Nuclear Power Plant. However, an opinion poll conducted in February this year showed that 75% of Fukushima residents are in favor of complete withdrawal from nuclear power generation. The latest poll indicated that in Fukushima Prefecture, support for the Abe Cabinet, which promotes nuclear power generation, was only 27.7%, which is much less than the national average.

With the aim of bringing down the curtain on everything about the nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima, the national government decided to gradually remove 80% or about 2,400 of 3,000 real-time radiation dosimeters installed outside the evacuation zones by the end of March 2021. However, it normally takes 30 to 40 years to decommission a nuclear power plant even without considering the residual effects of the meltdown. In addition, the transportation to interim storage facilities of contaminated soil produced in the process of decontamination has just begun. In this context, residents in many parts of the prefecture are asking for continued monitoring as it is the only means of visualizing invisible radiation. This has led the government to reassure the population by announcing that it "will not unilaterally remove the dosimeters".

The Environment Ministry plans to reuse the radiation-contaminated soil for public works projects. In particular, it wanted to use it as subgrade for public roads, that is the natural material underneath the paved portion, on an

experimental basis. However, in Nihonmatsu City, residents' voices demanding the cancellation of the project were so strong that the Ministry had to give up the experiment.

Furthermore, in a lawsuit filed by victims of the nuclear accident, to "recover their livelihood and community life", the Fukushima District Court on October 10 of 2017 acknowledged the legal responsibilities of the government and TEPCO, ordering them to pay the plaintiffs compensation above the level set by official interim guidelines of 2011. It is especially significant that the court recognized the state's legal responsibilities.

The struggle of Fukushima residents has been waged in concert with committed people throughout Japan. Not only Fukushima citizens but also many other Japanese people believe that another nuclear accident should never be allowed to happen again. That is why heads of local governments should call for closure of nuclear power plants throughout Japan, like the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, who have taken a firm stance against nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, the Fukushima governor in his statement, does not refer to nuclear power plants located outside his prefecture. He has failed to say what he should say to the government and TEPCO.

In fact, the Liberal Democratic Party in its proposal has suggested the discharge of tritium-tainted water into the Pacific Ocean. It is true that there are a number of problems related to the nuclear power plant accident, but trying to solve them by resorting to unilateral and hasty measures could undermine the confidence of people inside and outside Japan. We must use our collective wisdom to come up with a solid and safe plan for towards decommissioning. This autumn, we will fight to get a governor elected who will be able to uphold demands for the closure of all nuclear power plants in Japan. Thank you.



Statements:

Manisha Gaur
Roopantaran Training and Development
Pvt Ltd.
India

(Transcribed from oral presentation)

Thank you for giving me the chance. There is a saying; "Being a brother is biological, but staying a brother is a challenge." So with the grace of the cosmos we are all human. So being human is what we are, but staying human is a challenge. What we are facing is, we're not animals, we're not mammals. We're really different from all others living in the cosmos because we have a brain, and we have a power to create the world. And there are some of us who are misusing the power. Rather than creating, using destructions.

For the speaker before me, I am really worried about tears because we are here together and even if some of our friends are having tears in their eyes, it's really bad and it hurts. One of the speakers before my speech said that she is working for having some literature in all the schools and colleges. I think there we are lacking. Peace should be important and a compulsory subject for the primary education and middle education. We're giving our children everything and there is a big number of people who are just earning and creating luxury. They need to understand that if the world remains, the luxury remains. They need to participate compulsorily in the peace movement. I want this photo with this banner to publish in a lot of places, not only because I want to publish my photo. I want to publish that there are a lot of peace movements. If anyone outside who is human, who cares for people should participate in human and peace movements.

When we got some information from other countries that they are having some power centers, some are small countries, some are bigger countries, and the bigger countries are busy in big destructions, because they have big power. So I've got some numbers that there are certain countries who said that we are really no-nuclear nations. Salute to them. And our responsibility to take the peace movement in our country because we get about as human and then we distract and then we separate in cast and religions and countries.

We need to think of the world as a global village. Then I am not afraid of you, and you're not afraid of me. And you belong to me and I belong to you. If you've got this feeling, that this world is a global village, and we belong to each other, no one needs to be afraid of anyone. And I am not interested that I got the number one from you, and

I'm not interested that I've got the second, third position in the world because we are the same. We are equal. And we are working for each other.

So I just want to say two sentences. Start taking the world as a global village, and keep all the people surrounding you and participating in peace and happiness. You know, we need two things to live only. The peace, and the health. The smile on your face and the good healthy mind and body that do things. And if we're able to understand, to make understand the people surrounding us, that this is the only two things we're working for, our mission is over and we'll get a lot of other people into it.

And the day we are able to involve each and every person in our family and our relatives and our supporters and our groups, into this peace movement, then only we'll be able to say NO to this.

Potturi Narayana Rao
LEAD Foundation
India

Solidarity & co-operation between movements against nuclear power plants and for environmental justice

At the outset let me thank the organizers of this world conference for giving me the opportunity to speak before you. It gives me immense pleasure in addressing the august gathering on the theme related to the solidarity and co-operation between the movements against nuclear power plants and for the environmental justice throughout the world. To begin with, let me trace the chronology of the anti-nuclear movements till recent past. The opposition to nuclear power started in the early sixties. By late sixties, the scientific community began to express their concerns on the use of nuclear power. Many anti-nuclear groups are against both nuclear power and nuclear weapons. In the early seventies, there were large scale protests against the construction of nuclear power plant in Wyl, West Germany. In 1975, the court withdrew the construction license for the plant. This success has inspired other citizen groups in Europe and America. A large demonstration against nuclear power was held in Bilbao in Spain. Following the Three Mile Island accident in 1979, an anti-nuclear protest was held in New York city. In 1981, Germany's largest anti-nuclear power demonstration took place against Brokdorf nuclear power plant. In 1986, following the Chernobyl disaster in former Soviet Union, about two hundred thousand people marched in Rome to protest against the Italian nuclear programme. Hundreds of people walked from Los Angeles to Washington

D.C. As a result, many nuclear power plants were closed in United States and nuclear power was taken off the policy agenda in many countries. The World Uranium Hearing was held in Salzburg, Austria in September 1992. Anti-nuclear speakers from all continents disclosed the health and environmental problems of uranium mining and processing, nuclear power, radioactive waste disposal.

In recent times, in January 2004, anti-nuclear protests marched in Paris against new generation of nuclear reactors, in June 2007, in the city of Kudzus in Indonesia against building a nuclear power plant, in February 2008, in Japan for the closure of Kazantzakis-Kariwa Nuclear power plant. In 2008 and 2009, there have been protests against new nuclear reactor proposals in the United States. In 2010, about one twenty thousand people built a human chain between nuclear power plants at Kummel and Broncobuster against the plans of the German government to extend the life of nuclear reactors. In April 2011, environmental activists gave a statement at U.N. meeting urging bolder steps to tap renewable energy so that the world does not have to choose between the dangers of nuclear power and the ravages of climate change.

Following the Fukushima nuclear disaster, environmentalists throughout the world held demonstrations for the closure and against the expansion of nuclear power plants. Anti-nuclear activists highlighted their concerns related to high costs, accidents, weaponization and targeted attacks by terrorists.

Since 2000, the nuclear industry has taken up an international media and lobbying campaign to promote nuclear power as a solution to the climate change crisis. The Nuclear Energy Institute is the main lobbying group for companies in USA. Unfortunately, some famous environmentalists also fell prey to this propaganda. Among them are George Monbiot, former director of Green Peace international and James Lovelock, originator of the Gaia hypothesis.

Now let us examine some of the environmental justice issues in nuclear power and radioactive contamination. The siting and operation of nuclear power plants in the areas where the indigenous people and racialized minorities live, is an injustice done to them. They are exposed to environmental health risks relating to radiation and chemical contaminants. Several studies examined how the proximity to nuclear reactors would translate into actual experience in the case of an accident with a

focus on social dimensions of the risk such as uncertainty, displacement, cultural pressures and social rejection. There is a growing concern about the aging and deteriorating fleet of reactors that are already operating beyond 40-year operational life. When considering environmental justice implications of nuclear technologies, it is critical to focus on the complex nuclear fuel cycle from mining and milling of the ore to enrichment and nuclear fuel rod fabrication and extremely high level nuclear waste that must be isolated from humans. Uranium mining has environmental justice issues since it is not only workers who are exposed but also their homes and communities become contaminated.

Environmental Justice movements are at present one of the most influential social movements in the world today. According to the Environmental Justice Atlas which prepares an inventory of social conflicts around environmental issues around the world, 57 conflicts are related to nuclear nightmares. Grassroot movements have succeeded in slowing down the nuclear industry and in phasing out in some countries.

As far as India is concerned, there are about dozen conflicts related to uranium mining and nuclear power plants. The most affected people are indigenous tribes and low-income groups belonging to rural area. Those movements have got much publicity in the media though they have succeeded partially. The most significant development due to these anti-nuclear movements is withdrawal of support by left parties on India-USA nuclear deal on the question of "India Safeguard Agreement" to the Central Government and it lost its majority.

Now the question arises what the alternatives to the nuclear energy are. There are many known alternative energy sources such as hydroelectric, solar, wind and biomass energy. There are developments that are being carried out to find new alternative energy sources such as geothermal energy and tidal power. These alternative energy sources are available in nature and do not tax the environment for their use. With their usage, the carbon dioxide emissions from conventional energy sources can be greatly reduced and the problem of global warming can be solved to a large extent. Air, soil and water pollution can also be controlled reasonably. The damage that we have caused to the earth after industrial revolution is tremendous and we have to keep the planet sustainable for our future generations.

Plenary Session II:

Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons; Role of Peace Movements and Civil Society; Promotion of the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine (August 2)

Introductory Reports:

Joseph Gerson

Chair, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security, U.S.A./ Vice President, International Peace Bureau

In a Perilous Time

“Freedom of thought is the only guarantee against an infection of mankind by mass myths, which, in the hands of treacherous hypocrites and demagogues, can be transformed into bloody dictatorships.”

-- Andrei Sakharov

I want to thank Gensuikyo for the opportunity to return to the World Conference. It is a pleasure to be joined by my experienced and dedicated U.S. friends and colleagues. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Taka-san for his important contributions to our Two Minutes to Midnight conference in New York in May.

The Hiroshima and Nagasaki A-Bombings

As a U.S. American, I want to acknowledge that, on its own terms and by the standards of World Court’s advisory opinion on the use and threatened use of nuclear weapons, the indiscriminate A-bombings here and in Nagasaki were nothing less than unconscionable crimes against humanity. While making no excuses for Japanese militarism and imperial aggressions, we should remember that in the months prior to the A-bombings the Japanese government attempted to surrender on terms the U.S. ultimately accepted AFTER the atomic bombings: unconditional surrender with the exception of the Emperor remaining on his throne. Most senior U.S. military leaders thought that the A-bombings were unnecessary and wrong.ⁱ

Craven domestic political calculations, racism, and bureaucratic momentum contributed to Truman’s decision to usher in the nuclear age with

the annihilation of the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but as General Groves, who led the Manhattan Project remarked in 1943, the A-bomb project was no longer about Germany or Japan. It was about Russia. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were vaporized, incinerated, poisoned and traumatized to ensure that the U.S. would not have to share influence with the Soviet Union in Northern China, Manchuria, and Korea. And, Truman thought that the A-bomb gave him a “hammer” with which he could dominate the Kremlin with the threat of nuclear annihilation.ⁱⁱ

Despite the Hibakusha’s fundamental truth that human beings and nuclear weapons cannot coexist, the illusion that nuclear weapons have worked and can serve as the ultimate enforcer of empire, compounded by lies and mistaken beliefs about nuclear deterrence, have repeatedly brought us to the brink of nuclear omnicide and driven nuclear weapons proliferation. In Helsinki, Vladimir Putin again illuminated the madness and injustice of nuclear apartheid. “As major nuclear powers,” he said, “we bear special responsibility for maintaining international security.”ⁱⁱⁱ He and Trump believe that their nuclear arsenals give them the right to intimidate and dictate how the world’s nations and peoples live and possibly die.

A Perilous Time

Friends, we meet in a perilous time of rising great power tensions, the ascendancy of right-wing autocracies, uncertainties, and renewed nuclear and high-tech arms races. This is compounded by the reality that there are no longer any givens in U.S. foreign and military policies^{iv} or to the future of liberal democracy in the U.S.

The Trump administration is marked by chaos. Following Trump’s secretive summit with Putin and the political and media circus that followed, Trump was confronted by his most senior staff who insisted that he deny or reverse a number of statements and commitments he had made in Helsinki, from possible Russian interrogation of the former U.S. Ambassador to Moscow to his support

for a referendum in Eastern Ukraine. Pompeo and Bolton are at odds on the Korea negotiations. And, the Pentagon is reeling from Trump's unexpected and whimsical orders, musings about reductions of troops in Germany, his order to organize a costly Kremlin-like military parade on Armistice Day, and his announcement of the creation of a new space command.

Independent of Trump, the gears of empire grind on. The Pentagon budget has been increased by an amount equal Russia's total military budget. Despite Trump's embrace of Putin, the Pentagon's new National Strategy prioritizes preparations for great power war against China or Russia which "challenge American power, influence and interests."^v This explains the \$1.2 trillion spending plan for the new generation of U.S. offensive nuclear weapons and their delivery systems and Trump's new "Space Command" to dominate Earth from space. As we saw in Trump's theatrical summitry with Kim Jung-un, his trade war tariffs and denunciation of the European Union as a foe, in Trump's American First Empire, the only good allies are those who know their proper place as vassals. More than his predecessors, Trump embraces dictators and authoritarian rulers from Putin and the Saudis, to Orban in Hungary and Duterte in the Philippines. And while he describes his 391-word vague agreement with Kim Jung-un as a "good deal", he calls the fully implemented P5+1 deal with Iran a "bad deal" and has violated it. We're now told that there is no reason to rush complete North Korean denuclearization, while the unspoken commitment to regime change in Iran to restore U.S. regional and global U.S. hegemony is an urgent priority.

Meanwhile, in the tradition of dictators, truth, the rule of law, organized labor, citizenship, and even the right to vote are being attacked by Trump and his minions. He blatantly contradicts himself in the same sentence and averages 6.5 recorded lies per day.^{vi} From Charlottesville to Budapest and the Kremlin, Trump embraces and encourages white and ostensibly Christian supremacists. His assaults on the press, science and his separation of families, his imprisonment of children in cages and the packing of courts with right-wing ideologues have brought us to a proto-fascist moment reminiscent of the rise of European fascism in the 1920s and 30s.

During the 2016 election campaign, Trump said "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody...and I wouldn't lose any voters..."^{vii} Now, with his one-on-one meeting with Putin – the details of which have been kept secret from his most senior advisors and the U.S. people, combined with his Helsinki statement that he trusts Putin more than U.S. intelligence services,

his description of the press as an enemy of the people, and the failure of Republicans to call him to account, Trump may be doing the political equivalent of pulling that trigger on Fifth Avenue. Some liberals and conservatives are warning that the lesson Trump may take from Helsinki and from Republican silence is that he can shut down the special counsel's inquiry into possible election collusion with Russia and related corruptions. This would ignite massive demonstrations that could result in the declaration of martial law, and the emergence of an Erdogan type dictatorship a country that was once the model and inspiration for liberal democracy.^{viii} Remember, Trump is the President who failed to fully condemn Nazi violence – including a murder – in Charlottesville a year ago and recently pardoned armed right-wingers who had been convicted of arson.

In this climate, it should be no surprise that we are talking about the lessons from the collapse of the Weimar Republic in 1933. We have organized many massive protests across the country – especially in the wake of the imprisonment of children and babies. The civilized world is rightly alienated by, and increasingly isolating, the United States.

I should note that in many ways, Trump is a symptom, not the sole cause, of the American crisis. With the United States' Pax America identity increasingly besieged by the country's relative decline in economic, military and cultural power and influence the cognitive dissonance of no longer being #1 has reinforced ancient currents of racism and national chauvinism. This has been compounded by the Supreme Court's removal of limits on what the superrich can spend in elections, by the post 9-11 militarist culture which permeates nearly all sectors of American life and resulted in the military becoming the country's most widely respected institution. And, of course, there are the "subversive tentacles" of the military-industrial complex. Our political crisis is thus systemic. Impeachment of Trump would leave us with all these forces still in place, with Pence in power, and the increasingly militarized mainstream of the Democratic Party pursuing confrontations with both Russia and China.

Two Minutes to Midnight

All of this is deeply related to continuing U.S. preparations for omnicidal nuclear war. This past winter, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists sent the world a warning by moving the hands of their Doomsday Clock to two minutes to midnight. This is the closest to apocalyptic nuclear war since 1953 and worse than during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis.

Why the warning? They cited the Trump administration's Nuclear Posture Review, decrying increased US reliance on nuclear weapons; its staggering investments in new nuclear weapons that are driving "modernization" of the world's other nuclear arsenals; the return to Cold War rhetoric and the total absence of US-Russian arms control negotiations. They warned about the dangerous lack of coherent US foreign and military policies that undermine global security, North Korea's nuclear weapons program; South Asian rivalries; Trump's threat to the nuclear deal with Iran; and climate change.^{ix}

The NPR follows on the Pentagon's new National Strategy that prioritizes preparations for great power war and includes a more aggressive U.S. first-strike nuclear war-fighting doctrine. It builds on Obama's commitments to deploy new and more usable B-61 nuclear weapons to Europe. The Navy's sea-launched ballistic missiles will be armed with still more devastating first-strike W-76-1 warheads. And the mandate to replace the entire nuclear triad remains in place. New is a sea-launched cruise missile and Trident submarines ballistic missiles armed with Hiroshima-like A-bombs. And, to compensate for China's increasing area denial capabilities in the western Pacific, there is to be a standoff, air-launched, nuclear armed cruise missiles that can be fired against the Chinese military and civilians from thousands of miles away.^x

Perhaps the most dangerous element of Trump's \$1.2 trillion NPR is the blurring the distinction between conventional and nuclear war and the increased role for nuclear weapons in U.S. war fighting strategies. The initial leaked version of the NPR mandated first-strike attacks in response to devastating cyber-attacks as well as to chemical or biological weapons attacks.

Even before Trump's NPR, Daniel Ellsberg pointed to continuities in U.S. nuclear doctrine: Thousands of nuclear weapons on hair trigger alert. The U.S. retains its first strike policy. So-called "extended deterrence" Europe and East Asia relies on first use. U.S. doctrine calls for launch on warning. U.S. policies have "always precluded an effective nonproliferation campaign." And, the president is not the only person who can launch the country's nuclear weapons.^{xi}

The U.S. is not the only culprit. All of the other nuclear weapons states are upgrading their nuclear arsenals. There is increasing debate in right-wing German circles about the creation of a German or European bomb. Iran will unleash its cyclotrons if the P5+1 deal collapses. Saudi Arabia is putting its nuclear infrastructure in place. And, the Turkish Labor Party reports that Erdogan wants a nuclear

weapon.

Singapore – After Fire and Fury

We'll be discussing the fraught US-Korean diplomacy on Sunday, but we should appreciate that President Moon's inspired Olympic diplomacy and that the Singapore summit prevented – at least for the time being – a catastrophic war, walking Trump back from his incendiary fire and fury nuclear threats. The summit also made it possible for Seoul and Pyongyang to proceed in "determining the destiny of the Korean nation on their own accord."

As we think about North Korea's nuclear arsenal, and the threat it poses to Japan, South Korea and other countries, we need to recognize that it reflects fear. Even as we criticize Pyongyang's hideous human rights record, we need to acknowledge that Pyongyang's nuclear weapons grew from the trauma of Japanese conquest and colonialism, the devastating Korean War, U.S. and South Korean regime change commitments, repeated U.S. preparations and threats of first strike nuclear attacks, and the failures of U.S. diplomacy, beginning with the Clinton and Bush I failures to implement the 1994 Agreed Framework, Bush II's vetoing Kim Dae Jung's Sunshine policy and rejection of the comprehensive agreement negotiated by former U.S. Secretary of Defense Perry, and the Obama administration's "benign neglect." As Perry and the renowned historian Bruce Cumings explain, the purposes of North Korea's nuclear program are to preserve Kim dynasty and the country's independence.^{xii}

But the diplomacy is fraught. Bolton insists complete North Korean nuclear denuclearization needs to take place within a year, while Pompeo says meaningful progress must be made within two years, and Trump says he is in no hurry. Kim Jung-un has denounced Pompeo's "gangster" demands – apparently a rejection of U.S. demands for serious denuclearization steps before the U.S. relaxes sanctions – is now demanding a U.S. commitment to replacing the Armistice with a peace treaty before he makes serious concessions. And, contrary to U.S. expectations of immediate gratification, Dr. Siegfried S. Hecker – former head of Los Alamos and the US physicist with greatest exposure to DPRK nuclear infrastructure has argued that given the size of the North Korea's infrastructure, its complete destruction could take fifteen years.^{xiii}

While some doubt the seriousness of Kim Jung-Un's denuclearization commitments, Joel Wit, who has played a leading role in US negotiations with the DPRK since 1993, reports that "Everyone underestimates the momentum behind what North Korea is doing. It's not a charm offensive or a tactical trick." In 2013, when Obama didn't have a

potential negotiating partner in South Korea, DPRK diplomats informed the US that they would give up nuclear weapons in exchange for end to U.S. hostile approach. They said their build up would be of “limited duration” until better relations with U.S. were possible. And they envisioned three stages in response to the U.S. removing nuclear threat and ending sanctions: a freeze on nuclear weapons development; disabling key facilities & nuclear weapons; and mutual diplomatic recognition.^{xiv}

The day following the Singapore summit, I was in Washington with Michelle Cunha and sixty members of the Korea Peace Network from twenty states to meet with Congressional staffers. We were dismayed by the Democrats who, fearful that the summit would boost Republicans’ chances in the November election arrogantly claimed that Trump had made all of the compromises, gotten nothing in response, and shouldn’t have suspended the joint military exercises.

We urged them to challenge Trump from the left by pressing for more substantive negotiations: putting together the necessary team of experts to conduct serious negotiations, proposing a road map and schedule for successful negotiations, supporting the suspension of the provocative military exercises which should be made permanent, and pressing for an end to Trump’s travel ban and taking other steps to provide humanitarian foundations for peacemaking.

The U.S. Movement

I wish that I could report that we have a massive US movement committed to our government fulfilling its Article VI NPT commitment and to signing and ratifying the Ban Treaty. But, as you see from the size of the U.S. delegation here, in response to Trump’s fire and fury threats, his nuclear weapons upgrade, and the growing dangers of great power and other wars, there is in fact greater attention to and more actions devoted to reversing the nuclear dangers.

For example, 80 members of Congress have co-sponsored legislation to remove the president’s ability to launch first-strike nuclear war on his own authority and Congressman Kohana has introduced No Preemptive War Against Iran legislation. One of the country’s most popular television programs ran a chilling episode about the danger of nuclear war resulting from miscalculation. And Daniel Ellsberg has returned to national prominence with his new book [The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner](#).

Fears about Trump and the bomb are such that we held a no first strike conference at Harvard University with the surreal spectacle of me, a Vietnam era draft resister, chairing a panel featuring

the former high priest of U.S. nuclearism William Perry, the former missileer Bruce Blair, and Zia Mian of Princeton University.

In Massachusetts, we have been briefing Congressional primary candidates, a state legislator running for Congress introduced a no first use bill. And, as Michelle will report, we have a campaign of legal and civil disobedience actions challenging the nuclear weapons upgrade at a base near Boston.

In the coming months we will be working to ensure that the nuclear agreement with Iran survives Trump and Bolton as well as doing our best to prevent a regime change war. In the tradition of walking and chewing gum at the same time, while working to oust Trump and his corrupt coterie, we will support diplomacy to extend the New START Treaty, the survival of the INF Treaty, work for deeper cuts in the great powers’ arsenals, and find ways to encourage our partners in the nuclear umbrella states to break ranks with their masters by signing and ratifying the Ban Treaty.

Finally, with democratic culture and institutions in peril, with people of color and immigrants most vulnerable, and with Trump’s economic assaults on the 99%, we know that we must shatter our self-isolating movement silos. In unity there is strength. More, the reality is that root causes of preparations for nuclear annihilation; racist cultures those of domination and injustice; and of the assaults on the environment are deeply and inter-related. Intersectional movement building is thus a priority for us, including opposing funding for new nuclear weapons as well as opposing Trump’s racist anti-immigrant ethnic cleansing. It means insisting that our elected leaders oppose Trumpian austerity and demand that the money be redirected to pay for food stamps, for education and for infrastructure investments and not for empire and its ultimate enforcers – nuclear weapons. Finally, it means listening to others that we can act in solidarity with those who are most immediately in danger.

i Joseph Gerson. *Empire and the Bomb: How the U.S. Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World*, London: Pluto Press, 2007, pp. 53-55; Joseph Gerson. *With Hiroshima Eyes: Atomic War, Nuclear Extortion and Moral Imagination*, Philadelphia. New Society Publishers, 1995, pp 33-36

ii Ibid. p. 41

iii <https://www.bing.com/news/search?q=Transcript+Putin+Trump+Press+Conference+Helsinki&qvpt=transcript+putin+trump+press+conference+helsinki&FORM=EWRE>

iv Richard Hass.

<http://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2018/07/16/trump-putin-helsinki>

v <https://www.defense.gov/Portals/1/Documents/pubs/2018-National-Defense-Strategy-Summary.pdf>

vi <https://csnbs.com/thread-850625.html>

vii <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/jan/24/donald-trump-says-he-could-shoot-somebody-and-still-not-lose-voters>

viii Jack Beatty, “On Point” National Public Radio, July 20, 2018.

ix <https://thebulletin.org/2018-doomsday-clock-statement/>

x See, among others Joseph Gerson. "Doomsday and the Apocalyptic Trump Nuclear War Fighting Doctrine," Truthout, January 26, 2018

xi Daniel Ellsberg. *The Doomsday Machine: Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner*, New York, Bloomsbury, 2018, pp

xii <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HBaC-htfM4>

xiii <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/28/us/politics/north-korea-nuclear-disarmament-could-take-15-years-expert-warns.html>

xiv <https://portside.org/node/17428/printable/print>

Rachel Melly Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)/ Yorkshire CND U.K.

Hello everybody. I am honoured to be with you here in Hiroshima for such a fantastic and crucial conference and I bring greetings from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. CND values highly its relationship with Gensuikyo and the movements present at this conference. Together we represent the overwhelming majority of humanity, struggling for peace and nuclear disarmament. In this CND's sixtieth anniversary year, we have collectively recommitted to our goal of a nuclear weapons-free world and we thank our international partners and friends for the support and solidarity expressed over so many decades.

We stand at a turning point in world affairs: in one direction lies an ever-increasing certainty of nuclear annihilation – a route pursued by a tiny minority of states; in the other lies the possibility of global nuclear abolition. In one direction is the nuclear modernisation and 'usable nukes' agenda of the Trump administration and the nuclear weapons states; in the other is the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, fought for and won by the endeavours of states and civil society across the globe. The divergence has rarely been so stark or so dangerous, and it is into this space that all our energies, our shared wisdom and experience, must be poured: to achieve the outcome which will ensure the survival of us all.

I would like to share some of the experience of CND in this regard.

Firstly I should say that the history of CND is the history of post second world war, told from the side of those fighting for humanity against the horror of war. It is the story of ordinary people's struggles to shape a world without nuclear weapons and war, based on legality and morality; to make our governments responsive and accountable over our right to stay alive, our right to breathe air free of radioactive pollution, our right to say no to the indiscriminate killing of people.

The context of CND's campaigns has changed

continually: from the Cuban Missile Crisis to the war on Vietnam, the height of the Cold War, through the aggressive wars of Bush and Blair to the world of Trump and beyond. Whatever the context, CND has worked with others, in Britain and abroad, to find the most appropriate campaigning forms to bring our own anti-nuclear issues to the fore, to make them central in the current political agenda and to exert mass pressure on government for change. Without that pressure, nothing will change. As a result of this approach, CND has been able to play a leading role in virtually every peace campaign since its birth.

The challenges facing us today are enormous. On the global scale we face the rise of the far right, given support by President Trump, who with his trashing of the Iranian nuclear deal, his new nuclear posture review and strategic defence review, and his wild rhetoric about nuclear use, brings us as close to nuclear use as at any time during the cold war. The Bulletin of Atomic Scientists has placed the hands of the Doomsday Clock at two minutes to midnight and I don't think any of us are surprised. Over the past months, the British media has frequently referred to the possibility of World War Three. And the British government has done nothing to help this: our Prime Minister Theresa May has herself said that she would be willing press the nuclear button, even knowing that millions of people would be killed.

Britain itself contributes to the increase in global tension, by insisting that it must replace its Trident nuclear weapons system, going against its commitments under the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and rejecting out-of-hand any involvement in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Our government has said that Britain will never sign the Treaty, but we are determined to prove them wrong. Britain is also part of the increasing global expenditure on nuclear weapons: President Trump has pledged \$1.2 trillion, but our own government has committed £205 billion (over 30 trillion Japanese yen) to replacing Trident, Britain's nuclear weapons system. Indeed, over the past decade, our work has focused very strongly on the cost of Trident replacement.

This is because CND has been most successful and effective when it has related directly to people's most pressing concerns - linking our issues to the reality of what is going on in the world.

Since the global financial crisis ten years ago, the UK has suffered under the austerity policies of successive conservative governments. We have experienced devastating government spending cuts to public services, including health care, benefits, and education while spending continues and increases on nuclear weapons. This has presented a

very clear campaigning opportunity for us: there is actually plenty of money – it's a question of government priorities. It could choose to spend on health and jobs, but actually it prefers to spend on weapons and war. Our most popular slogan in decades has been NHS not Trident – the NHS is our national health service. This has mobilised significant support for CND and enabled us to develop and reinvigorate grass roots links with anti-cuts organisations, trade unions and a wide range of campaigning groups.

In this work we prioritise working together with other organisations, building alliances across civil society. We would always prefer to work with others than on our own. We may lead an alliance against nuclear weapons but the measure of our success is how many organisations that are not primarily about nuclear weapons will come on board to support us. We do not want to work only with those who are already on side, but to win others to the cause.

An example of this in practice is the Stop Trident Alliance that we built against the replacement of Trident in 2015. Thirty national organisations came together with CND to oppose the government's plan. We mobilised hundreds of thousands across the country and on our demonstration in London, we were joined on the platform by trade union leaders, faith leaders, the leader of the Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, the leader of the Green Party, the leader of the Party of Wales – the list is a long one and it shows the breadth of social and political support for our movement and how it is possible to mobilise them.

And this is the same approach we are taking now, in the context of the current global situation. Last month we were a central part of the Together against Trump demonstration which mobilised a quarter of a million people in London to protest against Trump's visit to the UK. The feel of the protest was reminiscent of the big anti-Iraq war marches in 2003, embracing widespread social forces and every type of human concern against Trump's monstrous policies. Our role of course was to raise awareness and opposition to Trump's nuclear policy. By participating in the broad alliance we were able to bring our message to very large numbers of people, and to put our ideas front and centre for a whole new generation of young people, radicalised by the horror at the turn to the right, which in Britain is compounded by the Brexit decision. The rise of nationalism in England is a dangerous development.

People often ask us why the government – and indeed both Britain's major political parties – remain so wedded to the idea of nuclear weapons,

when they are a relic of the cold war, and new technological developments like cyber-attack and underwater drone technology will soon render UK systems obsolete. Of course our government always claims that they are necessary for our security, that they will never be used, and that they are designed to deter attack from hostile powers. But increasingly our politicians are required to say that they would press the button, so there is calculated uncertainty about whether it would be used or not. As one military figure has said, this reduces Britain's security to a game of bluff. Quite so. But what really renders the 'deterrent' notion ridiculous is the talk of 'usable nukes' and indeed we know that scenarios in which they would be used to protect national interests have been outlined for a long time. If ever there was a deterrence theory about nuclear weapons, it certainly no longer exists and we would be wise to recognise that.

In the UK it is widely acknowledged that we have nuclear weapons for status reasons, and that politicians don't want to let go of them, for fear of looking weak. That really shows the poverty of political thinking that is inflicted upon us by our so-called leaders.

For historic reasons, a former imperial power and so forth, many British politicians – and some citizens – feel that Britain must be a global leader, must 'punch above its weight', as Tony Blair used to say. The tragedy is that they see this in military terms, rather than in terms of using Britain's wealth and resources to advance the condition of humanity, both at home and globally. This is where a political leadership with vision could throw off the shackles of nuclear weapons and use its energies to help reshape a world without nuclear weapons. In short, be a government that would recognise that it is just too dangerous for nuclear weapons to continue to exist, and to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. That would truly be a global leadership role.

Many of you will know that Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the Labour Party, is a Vice-President of CND and remains personally committed to nuclear disarmament. But he has not yet been able to effect a transition in Labour Party policy. There are hundreds of thousands of new party members who support Jeremy's views, but there are many in the leadership and in the parliamentary Labour party who think that Labour has to look strong on defence and keeping nuclear weapons is the way to do it. But the opportunities for change are there, and if we win a change in Labour policy, then the potential for a future Labour government supporting the nuclear ban treaty is a definite possibility.

So there are huge threats that confront us all, and there are also huge opportunities. It is the nature of

our movement that we wish to fight internationally, working together in solidarity. And that has never been more important. None of the problems we face can be solved on a national basis, they must be solved internationally, and we must be united to meet that challenge.

Today we recommit to that international cooperation and solidarity, to ensure that no one will ever again experience the catastrophe and tragedy which faced the peoples of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

No More Hiroshimas – No More Nagasakis!
For a world free from nuclear weapons!

Christine Rosenberg French Peace Movement

For a Peaceful and Fair World, Without Nuclear Weapons

First of all, I would like to express the solidarity of the French Peace Movement (le Mouvement de la Paix) and all our compassion for the families who were bruised by the terrible floods that particularly affected the province of Hiroshima.

It is with great pleasure that we respond to the call of the Organizing Committee of this World Conference against A and H Bombs.

A victory of citizen mobilizations

The adoption by the UN of a treaty to ban nuclear weapons could not have been possible without the tireless testimony of the Hibakushas and the permanence of the mobilizations of the peace movements in Japan. It is also a victory for millions of people and NGOs who, throughout the world, have acted for decades for the definitive elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in connection and convergence with the actions of a number of countries and national and international institutions such as the UN, the International Red Cross, the ILO, the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation).

Global issues

Nuclear weapons are a deadly danger for humanity. The challenge of their eradication is linked to other issues such as war and peace, fair and sustainable development, the fight against global warming and more broadly for a world of justice, fraternity and equality (especially between men and women), so with the general struggle for human rights.

Humanity has never had as today the capacity and the means to face these challenges and to create

the conditions so that every human being can live in peace and security.

The logic of power, domination and hoarding typical to present globalized economies is a major obstacle to building a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons. It also comes with a questioning of the United Nations Charter and multilateralism for the benefit of NATO or supranational organizations such as the G8 or G20.

Thus this logic has favored the development of the military-political-industrial complex which is the main adversary in this phase of the struggle towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The military-industrial complex, which is mainly responsible for increasing military expenditure, also dominates and controls the media power. In France, for example, the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was totally ignored by the media or was fought by so-called experts.

Balance of power

The success of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons should not be underestimated, nor overestimated, and we should neither underestimate the determination of our opponents to delay the elimination of nuclear weapons. What is really positive is that the balance of power has evolved in favor of the elimination of nuclear weapons. In France, for example, in a recent poll, 76% of French people are in favor of France taking part in an international process of total and controlled elimination of atomic weapons, as planned by the UN. This will is very strong across the political spectrum.

And 67% of French people answer favourably, more than two-thirds of the population, to sign and ratify the Nuclear Weapons Treaty. These figures confirm, at the national level, the global developments towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

For the French Peace Movement, these data reinforce the dynamics of the fundamental movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons, which is expressed through the constitution of a vast international gathering for the elimination of these weapons, illegal for international law, dangerous because threatening the very existence of humanity, ineffective and militarily useless to ensure the safety of our people, financially costly and morally inadmissible.

However, these results can be shaded by the fact that to a first question concerning public expenditure, only 18% of pooled people consider that the budget of "defense, army", would be the second position to reduce. The security context with which citizens are flooded since the 2015 attacks

may explain this result down from previous studies.

But this opinion study contradicts the choices made by the government and parliament who have just voted, without any effort of public debate, a new Military Program Law aiming in particular at renewing the whole of the French atomic arsenal, in complete contradiction with the international law that makes illegal the possession, manufacture and threat of use of the atomic weapon.

In France, the majority and the current government (Macron) is in favor of nuclear deterrence, the militarization of international relations, military interventions abroad and alignment with NATO policies.

Regarding the doctrine of nuclear deterrence, more and more voices raise in France to question it, including those of former ministers of defense. For the French Peace Movement this doctrine inevitably leads to proliferation.

Proof of this is the possession of the nuclear weapon by North Korea.

Following the meeting between Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un, the French Peace Movement declared itself satisfied and vigilant considering that these first steps allow hope.

However, this should not lead us to forget some angles of the current international situation, namely :

- the new United States nuclear weapons policy with the resumption of the building of tactical nuclear weapons,
- the serious withdrawal of the US from the Iranian nuclear agreement,
- the will of the nuclear powers to prevent the ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

It is therefore necessary to support the demands of the Peace Movements, the States and the United Nations for the demilitarization of this region, its denuclearization and the closing of foreign military bases.

Similarly, the initiatives of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and its Member States should be supported for peaceful solutions to the conflicts in the region and to build a zone of peace, cooperation and development, without nuclear weapons, with the objective of extending these efforts to North-East Asia.

In Europe

The European Parliament has passed resolutions in favor of nuclear disarmament, but we must also act for a Europe of Peace including all European states, including Russia for a common security based on a logic inspired by the Helsinki principles. The next European elections in 2019 will be an opportunity for European pacifist movements to

express themselves in this direction.

Campaign

The French Peace Movement has launched a campaign for France to commit, sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). A petition has already collected several thousand signatures. The film "The Bomb and us" is broadcast in many cinemas in partnership with the Peace Movement and the member organizations of ICAN-France. It allows for public debates on the issues of dangerousness, the uselessness of nuclear weapons but also on the doctrine of deterrence.

This campaign will be expressed during the initiatives around the International Day of Peace on September 21st and during the Peace Marches organized throughout France on Saturday, September 22nd 2018 in association with the national collective "Marching for Peace" including 153 organizations.

On Sunday, October 14 2018, many partners are organizing with French Peace Movement a day of mobilization on "the scene of crime". The Peace Movement insists: "We want to challenge the President of the French Republic to tell him: Mr President, Remove the bomb from your skull". The pacifists will converge on the places where the French state is preparing the atomic war to denounce the humanitarian consequences and the illegality of the nuclear weapon. "Now it's confirmed, we are the majority; Mr President, you must listen to this will and commit France to the ratification of the TPNW."



Hwang Soo Young
Center for Peace and Disarmament,
People's Solidarity for Participatory
Democracy
R.O.K.

Hello. Nice to meet you. I'm Sooyoung Hwang, an activist from Center for Peace and Disarmament of Korea's People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy. I would like to express my deep appreciation for those who have worked hard to get rid of nuclear weapons on Earth, and particularly for Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo) for inviting me today.

As you all know, the Korean Peninsula, where I live, is at a critical turning point. The recent two Inter-Korean Summits and the U.S.-North Korea Summit have marked successful initial steps towards the peace on the Korean Peninsula. In the Panmunjom Declaration, the leaders of the Koreas agreed to "improve inter-Korean relations, eliminate the danger of war, establish a peace regime on the Korean Peninsula, and realize a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization." Also, the leaders of the United States and North Korea reached a comprehensive agreement on "establishing new U.S.-DPRK relations, building a peace regime on the Korean Peninsula, committing to work towards denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and repatriating the remains of POW/MIA." Today, the follow-up dialogues are taking place accordingly. In the meantime, actions have been taken by the parties to reduce mutual threats, such as suspension of ROK-US joint military exercises and demolition of the test stand for ICBM in North Korea. Seoul, Pyongyang and Washington have laid a solid foundation for dialogue. I believe this will serve as a driving force to keep up the momentum for peace. Koreans greatly welcome this set of current events.

The nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula takes up a large part of the global nuclear conflict. To address this issue, it is essential to understand the essence of this problem. A prolonged nuclear conflict on the Korean Peninsula should be viewed as part of the unstable armistice regime, not as deviation of a rogue state, or North Korea. This problem has arisen in the midst of the military confrontation and the arms race that has been going on for the past few decades. For several decades, South Korea has spent its military expenses that exceed an annual GDP of North Korea, and this excludes the military expenses spent by the U.S. Forces in Korea. The reason why North Korea began being obsessed with asymmetric warfare capabilities, such as nuclear and missiles, is that it

has no way to overcome its inferiority in conventional military strength.

To this end, it was of paramount importance to understand how denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is closely connected to building mutual military trust, bringing an end to the current state of armistice and establish a peace regime, and normalizing the U.S.-North Korea relations as well as the North Korea-Japan relations, and then seek a comprehensive solution. The recent summits are a big achievement in that the three leaders agreed in a broader view to such a comprehensive resolution for the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula. These agreements imply that the negotiations on putting an end to the state of armistice and normalizing the relations can be done in parallel with or prior to the negotiations on addressing the nuclear issue. The U.S. changed its past stance of "no denuclearization, no negotiations." This comprehensive solution is something that our civil society, including PSPD, have consistently proposed over a long period of time. Moon-Kim Summits and Trump-Kim Summit are a clear demonstration that this proposal was not mere idealism, but a feasible idea of possible agreement.

It is important to remain consistent with this perspective of comprehensive resolution in future dialogues and negotiations. We cannot go back to the past approach, where people believed it was possible to use economic rewards to make North Korea abolish nuclear weapons and missiles. This approach has proven unsuccessful at the negotiations over the last 30 years.

Civil society should follow up with discussions and an action plan regarding "what the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is". A complete denuclearization equates to a condition whereby nuclear threats to the Korean Peninsula are eliminated. This goal cannot be achieved only by North Korea's verifiable and irreversible dismantling of its past, present, and future nuclear capabilities. The goal can be achieved only when all military strategies reliant on nuclear deterrence disappear from both the Korean Peninsula and the area surrounding the Korean Peninsula. Therefore, the nuclear umbrella (extended deterrence) strategy on which South Korea and America or South Korea, America, and Japan rely should also be dealt with as part of the agenda along with North Korea's denuclearization. For the Korean Peninsula's solution to nuclear issues to develop into a stepping stone toward a nuclear threat-free northeast Asia and a nuclear-free world, it would be meaningful if "a truly nuclear-free Korean Peninsula" was realized. Civil society has long insisted that denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula be discussed in the context of constructing a nuclear-

free zone in Northeast Asia. On the other hand, it is also worthy of exploring the possibility that North and South Korea would simultaneously seek to join the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a solution to respond to the promotion of a complete denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula and a universal desire of the human race for a nuclear-free world, and Japan, Korea's neighboring country, and other nuclear powers around the Korean Peninsula would gradually follow suit.

What happened on the Korean Peninsula in 2018 once again proves to the world that the important factor is a matter of trust, not stronger military power or higher military expenses. We reaffirmed the power of dialogue through the Inter-Korean Summit and the U.S.-North Korea Summit. We believe the most realistic measure to resolve military conflicts over the Korean Peninsula and realize a peace regime thereon and denuclearization thereof is dialogue and negotiation.

With this in mind, we should keep the unwavering principles of "peace by peaceful means, resolution by dialogue and negotiation" under any circumstances. As the period of conflicts and confrontation was long, the upcoming process for the peaceful Korean Peninsula faces a bumpy ride. Peace activists and civil societies across the globe should consistently support this process aiming to bring peace through dialogues and negotiations. We should watch whether the agreements between the three leaders are well implemented while urging the governments to respect each other with patience and remain committed in implementing the agreed terms.

On June 12, as I was watching "the historic handshake" that shatters 70 years of hostility, I thought of a number of lost opportunities by the people living on the Korean Peninsula. In a society always ready for a war, we have lost more friends, a broader perspective and a bigger imagination. When President Trump and Chairman Kim exchanged hostile rhetoric to each other, the Korean Peninsula was filled with the fear of nuclear war. Under the firm belief that "only a strong military power will protect us," a huge part of our limited national budget was invested in national defense. Although Korea has the lowest welfare expenditure and the highest suicide rate in OECD countries, it ranks the world's top 10 in terms of military expenditure every year. We were not allowed to ask questions or raise doubts over national defense. The experiences of war and violence have passed down unhealed, and as a result, Korean people have been easily hostile to others, looked down on minorities, and been unable to accept differences. It is important to remember what we have lost, because

only by then, we have power not to go back. It was quite difficult to begin the process for the peaceful Korean Peninsula. Therefore, we cannot afford to go back.

It is no longer an impossible dream to start from a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula, moving on to nuclear-free Northeast Asia to the nuclear-free world, especially when combined with your effort.

Yasui Masakazu
Secretary General
Japan Council against A and H Bombs
(Gensuikyo)

Crucial Role of the Civil Society Movements

First of all, I would like to offer my heartfelt sympathy to the people who suffered heavy damage from flooding and mudslides caused by record rain last month in Hiroshima and other western Japanese areas. I want to thank people of Hiroshima for sparing no efforts to prepare the World Conference despite many difficulties. And I would also like to welcome all participants in the 2018 World Conference against A & H Bombs from around the world as well as Japan.

This year's World Conference is taking place amid upheavals in the world as well as in Japan over the issues of banning and eliminating nuclear weapons, and peace without nuclear weapons.

For one thing, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was adopted on July 7, 2017, is now being signed and ratified by a number of countries towards its entering into force. For another, agreements were reached at the US-North Korean summit on June 12 following the inter-Korean summit in April, marking the start of processes towards the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and peace in Northeast Asia.

Gensuikyo has consistently called for the peaceful settlement of the North Korean issue and proposed that the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula should be sought in a comprehensive manner as an integral part of building a regime of peace in the Northeast Asian region. So we truly welcome these historic agreements for the denuclearization of and building of a peace system on the Korean Peninsula. We urge the countries concerned to promptly translate the agreements into concrete measures and implement them in a sincere manner.

I think that behind these developments are the growing awareness of the world's people and increasing movements for peace and the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Clearly, the World Conference

has played a crucial role in the effort to achieve a total ban and elimination of nuclear weapons. For more than 60 years since its first meeting in 1955, the World Conference has helped advance people's joint struggle in Japan and internationally, together with the Hibakusha, with the determination that Hiroshima or Nagasaki must not be repeated.

In his message to this year's World Conference, President Michael Higgins of Ireland commended the activities of the World Conference, saying, "The work of this conference in highlighting the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons helped lay the foundations for the negotiations leading to the new Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons." He also noted, "The progress made in recent years will no doubt be celebrated at this year's Conference, but there is still work to be done and significant challenges to confront."

Friends, Hibakusha have set the year 2020 as the deadline for achieving the abolition of nuclear weapons and are dedicating their lives to this final struggle. We have only a year and a half to go. In order to make 2020 a decisive year to accomplish the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and a "nuclear weapon-free, peaceful and just world", we must make great progress in our movement.

Over the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, we are seeing conflict between the forces promoting the treaty and the forces against it. If the treaty comes into force, it will put significant political and moral pressure not only on the parties to the treaty, but also on those who are not parties.

This is why the United States and other nuclear-armed states are putting pressure on the pro-treaty nations, going as far as to say, "Nuclear-deterrence is necessary in the present security environment" and "The world would become more dangerous if we disarm now", while increasing their adherence to nuclear weapons, as seen in their policy of developing new types of weapons. But it is clear that nuclear deterrence will bring catastrophic damage on humans, as it presupposes the actual use of nuclear arms.

As the Declaration of the International Meeting adopted at last year's World Conference pointed out, "To move forward towards completely eliminating nuclear weapons, it is of decisive importance to build a majority of opinion in support of the treaty in the nuclear-armed countries and their allies and press their governments to sign and ratify the treaty with the force of public opinion and movements."

Recently we have seen some progress in world opinion. The U.S. Conference of Mayors (membership of 1400 cities) in its annual meeting last June unanimously adopted a resolution to urge

the Trump Administration to support the TPNW. Opinion polls in Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy show that 60-70% of the public say their respective countries should sign the TPNW.

And in Japan, we are building a joint effort to promote the signature campaign in support of the "International Hibakusha Appeal". A promotion committee, with the Hibakusha as initiators, has been set up in 26 prefectures, including Hiroshima and Nagasaki. That's more than half of the total number of prefectures. The joint signature drive involves a broad range of organizations, including Gensuikyo, citizens' co-operatives, Gensuikin/Peace Forum groups, and others. In Hyogo Prefecture, the call of the Hibakusha organization has been responded to by 15 local government heads, including the prefectural governor and the mayor of Kobe City, who appeared with their profile photos on the campaign posters soliciting people's signatures.

The interim report on the progress of the signature campaign will be announced on August 6 by the national Hibakusha Appeal Promotion Committee, but the number of signatures reported to us from Gensuikyo groups around the country has reached 3 million. Endorsement by mayors of municipalities has exceeded 60% of all mayors. Local assembly resolutions urging the Japanese government to sign and ratify the treaty have been adopted by 296 municipalities (out of 1700), up by 160 during the last 6 months.

Friends, Hibakusha say, "Earnestly desiring the elimination of nuclear weapons without delay, we, the Hibakusha, call on all national governments to conclude a treaty to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons." Now that the world is poised to listen to the voices of the Hibakusha, we must spread their appeal all over the world.

The annual general meeting of the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) resolved to aim to gather signatures from a majority of the Japanese people endorsing the "International Hibakusha Appeal". Let us successfully submit the collected signatures to the U.N. General Assembly session this coming autumn, and make a great leap forward toward next spring's Preparatory Committee of the 2020 NPT Review Conference.

For us, the movement of the A-bombed country, which has the Article 9 peace clause in its Constitution, it is our responsibility to the international community to make the Japanese government play its due role.

While claiming to be a "bridge" between non-nuclear and nuclear-armed countries in international forums, the government of Japan

continues to oppose the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It willingly supports the U.S. strategy of using nuclear weapons, expressing high appreciation for Trump's Nuclear Posture Review (NPR). On North Korea's nuclear issue, it turned its back on efforts to achieve peace and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, repeatedly calling for "maximum level of pressure", while throwing cold water on every effort to resolve the issue by holding talks, saying that it was a "waste of time."

But in view of the recent developments towards the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, Japan's stance of total dependence on the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" has been shown to be bankrupt. We are calling on the Japanese government to break away from the "nuclear umbrella" and to take the lead in achieving the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by joining the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We also urge Japan to welcome the agreement on the denuclearization of and peace regime building on

the Korean Peninsula, to maintain the position of achieving a peaceful and diplomatic resolution of the issues, and to try to solve the bilateral problems based on the Japan-DPRK Pyongyang Declaration and joint statements of the Six-Party Talks for achieving peace. All attempts to strengthen the Japan-U.S. military alliance and rewrite Article 9 of the Constitution should be stopped immediately.

This year's World Conference is to be joined by representatives of one of the opposition parties in a coalition of parties that support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and also by the representative of the All-Out Action Committee to Prevent War and the Scrapping of Article 9. Also, for the first time, we will welcome the representative of the All-Okinawan Coalition Against New Construction of Henoko Base, to express our support for the struggle in Okinawa. I want to conclude my remarks by expressing our determination to increase cooperation among these organizations across the country and change Japan with new joint efforts of the people.



Statements:

Kawamura Reiko Executive Central Committee Member New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin)

The New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin) was founded 56 years ago, upholding the goal of protecting life from a nuclear war as our top priority. It has carried on the movement at the grassroots to meet women's needs since then. Now that an opportunity to realize our objectives is opening up, we place emphasis on three things in promoting our movement.

First is to have confidence in the current developments: The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, and the summit conference between the leaders of the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea took place for the first time in history. These developments enhance our hope for a nuclear-free, peaceful world and Northeast Asia.

Prime Minister Abe Shinzo and his government and mainstream media are spreading pessimistic and skeptical view from their obsession on the Japan-US military alliance.

The end of the Korean War and the normalization of the US-DPRK diplomatic relation, if achieved, will drastically change the environment on peace in the Korean Peninsula, Northeast Asia and the rest of the world. It will be a decisive turn in history. The Abe government has used the "North Korean threat" as a pretext to push ahead with military buildup under the war-laws and the revision of the Constitution, including Article 9. But its ground is being totally lost. Now that it is of crucial importance to change the government in this A-bombed country, the role of women, along with citizens, is of vital importance.

Second is to link peace and all other social movements with the struggle to put an end to the Abe government. Focusing on the International Signature Campaign for the Hibakusha Appeal and the 30-Million Signature Campaign "No to Abe's Revision of Article 9" as two major peace campaigns, we Shinfujin have grappled with them, appealing, "The anger to the Abe Government be turned to your signatures" or that "Your signatures will end the Abe Government". Thus, the number of signatures collected in support of the Hibakusha Appeal by Shinfujin has exceeded 970,000 and the No Constitution Revision, 950,000.

With the Okinawa gubernatorial election in the fall and the elections for the House of Councilors also ahead of us, women and citizens are raising voices to encourage opposition parties and citizen

groups to strengthen their cooperation efforts. As the time is shifting to the era of cooperation of the movement, women, who are particularly sensitive on the issues of peace and life, are taking the lead in the public opinion. The result of every opinion poll bring into relief strong criticism of the women against the government, as seen in such voices as, "The 600 billion yen for Aegis Ashore missiles should be spent for air conditioners at schools and evacuation shelters in this hot summer", "We must root out sexual harassments, the worst violation of human rights, and render the society sexual harassment-free!" It is time to join forces to end the Abe government without delay, stop its reckless politics and establish an alternative government in service of human life.

Third is to work shoulder to shoulder with younger generations to foster next generation leaders. It is in this effort that we are helping many young people to actively take part in the World Conference against A and H Bombs.

Those younger members who have experienced the movement are forming a generation who act on their own initiatives. Empowered by what they learn in the World Conference, our young members take to the streets to speak to the public, saying, "Are you not disappointed at present politics? The world may look gloomy, but it is actually changing. We can change the world together. Please join us". Encouraging the development and activities of next generations, we will increase our membership and ensure that women will play their role in bringing the Constitution into full play and achieving a world free of nuclear weapons.

Ogata Yasuo Committee of Chairpersons, Organizing Committee of World Conference/ Vice Chair, Director of International Commission, Japanese Communist Party

As of now, 59 countries have signed and 12 have ratified the historic Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which was adopted at the UN conference in July 2017. This is significant progress considering the fact that the five major nuclear powers are all hostile to the treaty, claiming that nuclear disarmament should be achieved in a step-by-step manner without undermining strategic stability.

Today's world seems divided over the issue of nuclear weapons. The forces working for the treaty's early entry into force are making progress. On the other hand, the nuclear powers such as the United States and Russia, which had boycotted the

UN conference on the treaty, have implemented policies to further enhance nuclear capabilities.

This May, a heated debate on this issue took place at the Second Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference. The committee is of importance as an international arena for all the parties to the NPT and civil society to meet together and refute the nuclear powers' self-centered claims.

At those opportunities, we will accuse the nuclear powers of enhancing their nuclear capability in breach of Article 6 of the NPT and push them to comply with the article, which requires nuclear-weapon states to "pursue negotiations on a treaty on general and complete disarmament". Focusing on the argument about the humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons, we will also prove that it is impossible to ensure security by the threat of the use of nuclear weapons. This year's World Conference has great significance as an opportunity for government representatives and anti-nuclear peace movements to exchange views on how to work together to press nuclear weapon states to abandon their nuclear arsenals.

The most critical element in such discussions is A-bomb survivors' testimonies of living through nuclear hell. Last year, Pope Francis met Masako Wada, Assistant Secretary General of Nihon Hidankyo (Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) and listened to her experience of the A-bomb attack in Nagasaki. After that, the Pope printed and distributed a photo of a little boy standing at a cremation pyre with his dead baby brother on his back, which had been taken by Joe O'Donnell following the bombing of Nagasaki, along with his signature and the caption: "The fruit of war". The Pope has repeatedly sent the message stating, "Nuclear weapons cannot constitute the basis for peaceful coexistence between members of the human family."

Pope Francis, holding a leading position among the 1.2 billion Catholics around the world, also conveyed his message to the UN conference last year and has since expressed his strong support for the nuclear weapon ban treaty. Meanwhile, the Church of England recently welcomed the treaty and called on the British government to "respond positively" to the convention.

In order to urge each country to sign and ratify the nuclear weapon ban treaty, it is crucial to promote the International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. This campaign, called for by nine A-bomb survivors, made a great contribution to the adoption of the landmark treaty. The signature campaign was launched in April 2016, before the nuclear weapon ban treaty came into

being. It appealed to all nations around the world to conclude an international treaty to ban and abolish nuclear weapons. Without limiting its purpose to supporting a specific treaty, the campaign wisely, openly, and fundamentally presented a path to achieving an international agreement for the abolition of nuclear arms. Let us expand this signature campaign throughout the world to change the situation proactively.

On June 12, as a historic and global event, the U.S.-North Korea summit was held following the inter-Korean summit in April. The two leaders agreed to build a peace structure and denuclearize the Korean Peninsula. The situation has dramatically changed from last year's height of tension to a resolution through dialogue. This World Conference, having worked to that end, is newly tasked with making continued efforts to promote this process with prospects for peace in Northeast Asia, including the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Even if there are many twists and turns, the decisive power to bring about peace lies in peoples' movements and public opinion. What has built the new U.S.-North Korea relations is peoples' mounting calls for a resolution not through war but through dialogue.

How things will go also depends on world opinion, as is the case with the issue of eliminating nuclear weapons. Here in Japan, we need to push the Japanese government to sign and ratify the treaty and work to have the North Korea issue resolved through dialogue in the spirit of the war-renouncing Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution. In June, I took part in an international anti-nuclear meeting in Oxford, England. In these kinds of meetings, I always find - with some exceptions - that civil society's movements are very active in nuclear-weapon states and their allies. In many of the member states of the NATO, the majority of the public is in favor of signing the nuclear weapon ban treaty.

In that meeting, I appealed for cooperation for the international signature campaign and discussed the joint efforts to encourage each government to sign the treaty. In Japan, along with the Japanese Communist Party, most opposition parties have come to demand the government's early signature and ratification. Taking responsibility for movements in each country and promoting international cooperation, let us work together to carve out a path to a new era of world peace.

Shibata Masako
Executive Committee Member, Women's
International Democratic Federation
(WIDF)/ Japan Federation of Women's
Organizations (FUDANREN)

For the denuclearization and peace of the East
Asia and the whole world

I am Masako Shibata, a member of the Direction Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF) and the President of Japan Federation of Women's Organizations (FUDANREN).

WIDF was founded in 1945 for common goals; the rights of women, happiness of children and permanent peace. Its affiliate organizations are struggling against terrorism and war and for the cause of women's rights in 5 regions; Middle East, Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia. The President is Lorena Pena from El Salvador.

FUDANREN was founded in 1953 against rearmament of Japan, demanding immediate cessation of the Korean War and has been engaged in women's joint activities for peace since then. These years FUDANREN has called on the WIDF affiliates to collect the International Hibakusha Appeal Signatures and to urge their governments to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We collected signatures at the WIDF 16th Congress in Colombia in 2016 and from the friends from the Federation of Cuban Women, the Portuguese Democratic Movement of Women and so on.

FUDANREN has also consistently called for a peaceful resolution of North Korean issues threatening East Asia through dialogue. We heartily welcome the U.S. and North Korea summit meeting last June as the first step toward denuclearization and a regime of peace of the Korean Peninsula. We hope that this process will bring about big changes to the regional situation. For this, collaborative efforts by the countries directly concerned and the international community at large are both needed. In addition, it is essential to strengthen public opinion and movements supporting this process.

Japan, as a provider of logistic backup to "UN Forces" at the Korean War and the only nation to have been attacked with nuclear weapons in war, should play a role by supporting and promoting the peace process that has begun. It has to work for a comprehensive resolution of bilateral issues with North Korea such as the settlement of historical issues, including sexual slavery and for normalization of diplomatic ties.

WIDF has a history that in 1951 during the

Korean War it sent a delegation to Korea to conduct an investigation on the war crimes against the civilians, including women and children committed by the US forces in the name of "UN Forces". It translated the investigation report immediately into 24 languages and called on the international society for the cessation of the war.

Last April, a WIDF delegation paid a solidarity visit in Pyongyang and issued a declaration calling on the women of the world to make efforts for the withdrawal of all the foreign bases, elimination of nuclear weapons and the independent and peaceful reunification of South and North Korea.

FUDANREN reconfirms that broad international solidarity, including NGOs such as WIDF, can achieve the denuclearization and permanent peace of the Korean Peninsula. We promise to you that, together with WIDF, we will stand against Abe's attempt to revise Article 9 of the Constitution and will continue fighting for realizing denuclearization and peace of East Asia and the whole world.



Plenary Session III:

*Solidarity & Cooperation of Movements against Nuclear Weapons
with Other Movements for: Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts;
Eradication of Radiation Damage; Zero Nuclear Power Plants;
Environment; Development; Overcoming Poverty &
Social Gap and People's Living
(August 3)*



Introductory Reports:

Michelle Cunha
Peace Action/ Assistant Director
Massachusetts Peace Action
U.S.A

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the World Conference. To be invited to be part of the global nuclear abolition community is an honor I cannot convey in words. Many of my colleagues from Peace Action have come to the World Conference over the years and each has expressed how life changing it was. I am already feeling the changes my colleagues have spoken of.

I would like to take a moment to thank the organizers for their hard work organizing this Conference. No string was left untied, a testament to their skill and dedication to providing a stress-free Conference.

As the Assistant Director of Massachusetts Peace Action, I am here to report on the activities our organization has participated in to bring about the abolition of the most devastating weapons of mass destruction.

Massachusetts Peace Action is a nonprofit organization headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Members of our organization have been working for abolition since 1957 when Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy was first formed. Massachusetts Peace Action formed in the

1980s as a local affiliate of Peace Action.

Peace Action National Office in Washington, DC offers a statement of solidarity:

On this 73rd memorial of the devastation inflicted on the cities and people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Peace Action expresses our organization's solidarity with you, and our ongoing commitment to doing the work, side by side, to build a movement for peace so loud that it cannot be ignored.

We extend a special message of support and solidarity to our siblings in Hiroshima, who experienced great loss and trauma due to extreme weather conditions. Our hearts extend to you and your communities as you rebuild and recover. Because our world is one, we cannot be silent about our governments' need to address climate change, poverty, and inequality – and demand they pursue policies rooted in justice and peace. The alternative future is unbearable, and thus we must persist.

The work I do is with the local affiliate Massachusetts Peace Action. Nuclear disarmament is our primary project and is led by Dr. Jonathan King, a retired biology professor from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr King has organized three conferences on “Reducing the Threat of Nuclear War”, the most recent one with the subtitle “Invest in Minds Not Missiles”. The speakers vary from local politicians to community organizers who understand how and why poverty is on the rise in the United States. These panels explain how the United States Federal Budget is skewed heavily toward the military budget at the expense of social programs which many poor and working families rely upon to make ends meet.

In November of last year, the conference “Presidential First Use of Nuclear Weapons: Is it Legal? Is it Constitutional? Is it just?” was organized by Dr. Elaine Scarry, a member of our nuclear disarmament group and Harvard professor of English, American Literature, and Language and author of *Thermonuclear Monarchy: Choosing Between Democracy and Doom*. Nuclear weapons strategy in the United States rests on “presidential first use,” an arrangement that enables one man, the president, to kill and maim many millions of people in a single afternoon. The speakers included distinguished guests such as William Perry former United States Secretary of Defense, United States Senator Edward Markey and Congressman James McGovern. It also brought together international and constitutional scholars to examine the nature of presidential first use in the United States, as well as parallel arrangements in the other nuclear states.

Massachusetts Peace Action also plans actions designed to attract the attention of the press. We

held one such action this past Spring.

Each year on or about April 19th, the Town of Lexington, Massachusetts recreates the Shot Heard Around the World, a day which commemorates the beginning of the American Revolution. Rife with citizen-actors who play parts of key Revolutionaries, people in period-piece costumes reenact the Battle on the Green in Lexington. About 10,000 people come to witness American History in action. However, inclement weather postponed our event this year. It was moved from April to May.

Memorial Day is a holiday celebrated in the United States at the end of May. It was designated to commemorate our Civil War dead, and since World War II, it has become a holiday to build patriotic nationalism. It is a weekend of high national pride. American flags are hung on houses, business, and cars. The colors red, white, and blue are ubiquitous. Seen on flags, on clothing, in food, the colors of the American Flag are everywhere. Massachusetts Peace Action used this day of national pride to highlight the Nuclear Command and Control Communications, one of which is located on Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Massachusetts, the town I live in.

How did Nuclear Command and Control Communications end up on Hanscom? And what is a “Nuclear Command and Control Communications”? In 2015 the Air Force began a project to upgrade the communications systems for the United States’ nuclear arsenal. NC3 is a complex, multi-level system that will provide “secure, survivable and resilient communications path to issue nuclear orders to warfighters.” Hanscom will be responsible for acquisition and integration of technology for NC3. In short, the Air Force wants to upgrade all the communication systems some of which are still on an analog system.

Members of Massachusetts Peace Action, the New England Peace Pagoda, American Friends Service Committee, Pax Christi Massachusetts, Friends Meeting House of Cambridge, and several Unitarian Universalist congregations along with Veterans for Peace, walked around Lexington handing out flyers about nuclear weapons and the cost to taxpayers associated with nuclear arms, to passersby. At 2 minutes to 13:00, we froze in place. A The “freeze” represented three things: 1. A hat-tip to the nuclear freeze movement that did such great work in the 1980s, 2. To indicate the Doomsday Clock had been moved to 2 minutes to midnight, the first time it had been moved since 1953, and 3. The frigid cold of a nuclear winter. After freezing for two minutes we then walked 3 miles from Lexington to Lincoln to Hanscom’s gate. We walked along the Battle Road, the route the Minutemen and Red Coats followed during the

Revolution.

Once we were at the gate of Hanscom there were speeches by myself, Dr. Joseph Gerson whom you all know, Dr. King, Dr. Scarry, and participant John Bach. I spoke about how many people think struggles around nuclear policies play out only in distant capitals such as Washington and Moscow, not in places like the quintessential New England towns of Lincoln and Lexington Massachusetts. Dr. Gerson spoke about the use and consequences of nuclear weapons. Dr. King discussed the federal budget and how the addiction to war is bankrupting the United States, and Dr. Scarry opined about the importance of an engaged citizenry as leaders in the nuclear abolition movement. John Bach spoke from the Quaker perspective and the importance of using civil disobedience to deliver the message of disarmament to political leaders across the world.

After the speeches, six dedicated nuclear disarmament folks crossed the line put in place by the Lincoln police, were put in handcuffs, and then escorted away. All were released on their own personal recognisance less than 2 hours later. The following day all six appeared in local court where their charges were dismissed.

This is just the beginning of our campaign to highlight Hanscom and its role in the new nuclear arms race. We will continue to work for disarmament as we are part of the forward looking global movement of nuclear disarmament.

Oleg Bodrov
Chairperson, Public Council of the South
Coast of the Gulf of Finland/ Film director
Russia

Cold Nuclear War in the Baltic Sea and
Mobilization of the Anti-War Community

Dear participants of the conference! Today I'm here with you not only to bow my head in memory of the victims of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Fukushima. I am here to unite our efforts against the expansion of military and so-called peaceful atomic technologies.

Unfortunately, Japanese historical lessons of using "military" and "peaceful" nuclear energy are not learned in many parts of our planet.

I am from the Eastern part of the Baltic Sea region, from St. Petersburg, Russia. Through the Baltic Sea, there is a line of confrontation between Russia and NATO.

Here the military exercises of NATO and Russia are developing rapidly and steadily. Tens of thousands of soldiers from both sides take part in

them. During the exercises, the use of nuclear weapons is simulated.

The Russian government has published conditions under which Russia will be the first to use nuclear weapons. This can happen even if the threat from outside is not linked to the use of nuclear weapons. In the same time according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russia, "*the prohibition of nuclear weapons contradicts the national interests of Russia.*"

During recent military exercises, President Vladimir Putin personally launched the Russian "nuclear triad". Four transcontinental missiles were launched from submarines, as well as from air and ground-based facilities capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Thus, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of Russia demonstrated a psychological readiness to use nuclear weapons.

Dear colleagues, for many years I have lived on the Baltic sea coast, next to St. Petersburg, a few kilometers from the one of the largest nuclear clusters on our planet. Here, 10 military and civilian nuclear reactors were built and 3 new reactors are currently under construction. In addition, there are 5,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel assemblies containing as much plutonium as there were if 3,000 bombs were dropped on Nagasaki. In addition, more than 30 NPP nuclear reactors were built and 4 currently are under construction.

If a nuclear conflict in the Baltic begins, it will be a socio-ecological collapse for 100 million inhabitants of the Baltic region.

My colleagues from Scandinavia and I initiated the collection of signatures around the Baltic region with calls to the leaders of NATO countries and Russia, European and Russian Parliamentarians to stop the confrontation and militarization of the Baltic region.

We called on the parliaments of the countries around the Baltic to finance programs to save the Baltic ecosystem instead of military games. Under our call, 110 representatives of non-governmental organizations from the Baltic region, as well as the United Kingdom, France and the United States signed.

Dear participants of the Conference, Russian President Putin promotes the idea that enemies surround the country, and it is necessary to invest all necessary national resources in military preparations. Thanks to this, the militarization of the public consciousness can be intensified and the use of military force is justified.

A similar situation with the political mainstream about NATO exists in the European Union countries. The politicians of NATO, EU and Russia try to separate us, to make us enemies.

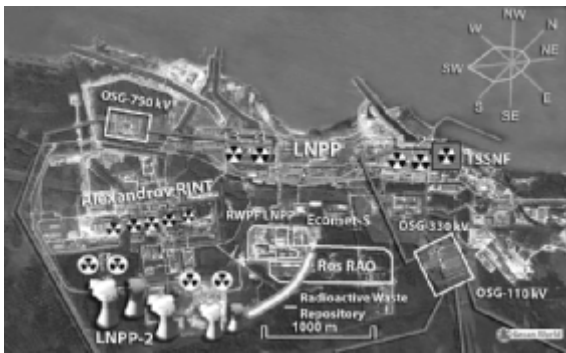
We are against such a strategy!

If you come to the countryside near St. Petersburg, Hiroshima or Nagasaki and ask the people what is most important for you in life? I am sure that most people will say: the health of children and relatives, a healthy peaceful environment, decent work.

Dear friends, we live in our common house – Planet Earth! We raise our children together with you and need a healthy environment.

Together we can and must stop nuclear expansion and the militarization of public consciousness in our countries.

Let us unite our efforts to save our planet Earth from military and “peaceful” nuclear technologies. No more Hiroshima, No more Nagasaki, no more Chernobyl, no more Fukushima!



Sosnovy Bor's Nuclear Cluster



Dong Huy Cuong Secretary General Vietnam Peace Committee

I am very happy to be here again with old and new friends from across the world who have been sparing no effort for a world without nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. I would like to thank the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo) for giving me such a chance.

Please allow me to convey to all of you the warmest greetings and best wishes from the Vietnam Peace Committee and especially from millions of Vietnamese, both those who have experienced the pain of war and those who have never.

This year, I am also honored again to hand over to the conference the message of solidarity from State President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Tran Dai Quang.

Friends, I am sure that we are all in emotional feeling whenever we attend the conference against A&H bombs. As we are preparing to make a presentation, we have the chance to look back at what that has been happening since 1945 and, especially, since last year's conference. We feel the pain of Hibakusha and other war victims who are still living in agony, we feel warm in the spirit of international solidarity, sometimes we feel discouraged and sometimes we feel encouraged by what is happening worldwide.

In my last year's speech, I emphasized that the adoption of a legally-binding treaty that would ban nuclear weapons with a view to their total elimination was a milestone but also put a question mark on the ratification and especially implementation of the treaty. After a year, we have seen positive sign: 10 countries have ratified the treaty. I myself am happy that Vietnam is among the first countries having signed and ratified the treaty and that the Vietnamese Government and people pursue a *consistent policy* of supporting efforts by the international community for non-proliferation of *nuclear weapons because we do understand the consequences of war and of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction*.

We have also seen positive signs of a peace process in the Korean Peninsula with the Inter-Korea and US-DPR Korea Summits. Though there is no specific plan for the abolition of nuclear weapons, we are confident about better developments which may open up a bright future for Korean people, as well as for people in the region.

However, it is easy to see that many countries are still researching, developing, manufacturing,

trading in, and threatening to use nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and that the weapons industry is still making huge profit. In addition, President Trump's decision to withdraw from the Iran nuclear deal, growing tension 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, especially disregard of international laws and agreements and resort to the threat or use of force by big powers.

That is why we are here together again to work together for a world without war, without nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, for justice for Hibakusha, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims. We need to strengthen our peace network to create synergies to bring pressure to bear upon governments to totally abolish nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, put people's lives ahead of profit, abide by international law, not use force or threaten to use force against other countries, and respect other countries' sovereignty. I am confident that the World Conference against A and H Bombs will continue to serve as a platform for our solidarity and cooperation.

The Vietnam Peace Committee would like to join hands with all peace-loving forces to make sure that such tragedies as those in Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Vietnam and other countries shall never be repeated.

I am looking forward to a day when there are no threats of war and all peace activists and movements be made redundant.

May I wish for an enormously fruitful conference, for a beautiful world free from nuclear weapons, and for the good health and happiness of all of you.

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki!

Justice for Hibakushas! Justice for all war victims!

Corazon Valdez Fabros
Secretary General
Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition

Friends, it is always heartwarming to come to Hiroshima – to be amongst friends who dream for a world free of nuclear weapons, a world that is peaceful and just; to be touched by the stories that changed the lives of many 73 years ago and its aftermath and to be inspired by your continuing commitment and dedication. I bring greetings of friendship and solidarity from the Philippines and from the International Peace Bureau. I wish to thank the organizing committee of the World Conference

and Gensuikyo for the privilege of being here and for your continuing support for our work in the Philippines and in many parts of the world.

Two years ago, a candidate for the Philippine presidency promised among many other promises, that if elected, he will pursue an independent foreign policy for the Philippines; that he will end the military exercises, wargames and U.S. military presence in Philippine soil; that he will honor the nuclear free, bases free constitution as a legacy to the future generation; that he will end labor contractualization and exploitation to secure employment and livelihood for the working class; that government will generate more employment so that families will not be separated as one of its members have to work overseas; that he will make as centerpiece of his administration, the end of drug and corruption to combat poverty; that he will uphold human rights; that health and education will be his primary concern; that dialogue and peace process with some of the longest running rebellion in our country especially in Mindanao will be pursued to its final settlement; so on and so forth. Unfortunately, it seems true that promises are made to be broken.

Two years into the Duterte presidency, that promise of independent foreign policy has become a pivot to China and Russia. Not only have our government turned its back on the gains of the decision of the Permanent Court of Arbitration given last July 12, 2016 favoring the Philippines in its maritime dispute against China, in its desire to get China's aid and loans (with unfavorable conditionalities) for the government Build, Build, Build infrastructure projects. The Philippine government has remained silent, not a single protest against the 7 artificial islands are now being developed by China in the Spratlys that now covers almost 1,300 hectares as bases for its warplanes, submarines, missiles and aircraft carriers. This is tantamount to the Philippines' permission to militarization in the Asia and Pacific region.

While the Philippine China relations progress, we also see the increasing big shipments of drugs from China into Philippine ports especially in Southern Philippines and China has not delivered on its promised aid and loans in a significant way. We would like for the Philippines to adopt a genuinely independent foreign policy, one that swears friendship to all and enmity to none, a policy that gives primacy to our national interests independent of the conflict between Big Powers. It is a policy that, above all, refocuses our effort on the most urgent issue, that of accelerated economic growth to address mass poverty, on which all other sources of national strength depend. That the ideal strategic direction is for the Philippines to enjoy the

friendship of the U.S., China and Japan and not to be a pawn in their inevitable conflicts.

There are disturbing developments as well:

- More than 25,000 deaths/extra judicial killings from the government's anti-drug campaign;
- Continuing pursuit of unequal relations with the United States thru the implementation of agreements related to defense cooperation, logistics, military exercises, storage of arms and equipment and frequent ship visit and increasing volume of personnel and other allied country representations.
- Increase military spending,
- Privatization of basic services in Education, health, transportation, communications and social services
- Continuing attack on United Nations, European Union, the International Criminal Court because of their strong critique of the Philippine government's killings, impunity and corruption
- Martial Law in Mindanao and the bombings in Marawi that resulted in the destruction of the city and the continuing evacuation and displacements of over 500,000 residents forced to leave their homes due to military operations against the rebels and terrorists groups.
- The continuing misogyny, extreme disrespect of women and children,
- Cancellation of Peace talks and the government's escalation of its repression against vocal critics of governments wrong economic policies
- The relentless drive to change the Philippine Constitution towards a direction to authoritarian regime resulting in the disregard and reduction of peoples' economic, social, political rights and freedom and the diminution of Philippine sovereignty.
- Amendments to the Human Security Act expanding the definition of terrorist acts, adoption of death penalty and increasing role of military and police.

This could be a long list and I know that many of those I have cited resonates in your own countries of origin and in your communities but I will stop here. . . . Indeed, we live in dangerous and challenging times. But it is times like this that brings out the best in us. And part of the reasons we are gathered here today is to learn from each other as we find ways to build on the movements we have started. That despite the seeming difficulties that we face today, people are unmasking the ugly head of militarism, fascism, dictatorship, plunder of resources to benefit a few, impunity and wanton violation of peoples' democratic and political rights. If there is anything that I will thank the Philippine

president for, it is that his regime has started to bring together the different democratic forces from the left in the Philippines (never happened almost 20 years ago) of what we hope would be a continuing advance towards consolidation of our forces if we are to oust this repressive regime. We have no alternative but to unite in our resistance.

Most countries in Asia are governed by dictatorial and fascist regimes, their consolidation of power thru term extensions, no election, martial law, constitutional amendments. Summary killings in the guise of eliminating drug addiction looms dangerously before us. We must stop it.

Against the backdrop of fascist and dictatorial regimes, the continuing advance of our campaign for the elimination of nuclear weapons and foreign military bases face tremendous challenge with the narrowing democratic space necessary to advance our cause and to protect our lives at any cost. It is therefore our task to not only approach our advocacy on a narrow angle. We must find ways to address our issues comprehensively, creatively, inclusively as there is indeed a convergence of our issues so that forging solidarities with other movements is possible to broaden our critical mass.

At this point, I would like to express our continuing solidarity with people of Okinawa, during this critical period in their struggle. We call for your support to help stop Henoko construction as Governor Onaga retracted approval for landfill to complete the base. The Okinawan people--of all generations--have stood steadily and mightily against "Goliath" that is the US and Japanese governments. We call on everyone here for your presence in this struggle, especially our friends from the United States and here in mainland Japan, to PLEASE FLOOD THE LINES OF YOUR CONGRESS PEOPLE and ask organizations to support the governor and Okinawan people! And we also ask for your prayers for Governor Onaga for his healing and recovery so that he can continue to provide the significant leadership and to live thru the day to see Okinawa peaceful and bases free.

We express our support to friends who continue to suffer the impact of disasters and calamities in our country especially in Mindanao and here in Hiroshima, Kansai Area and Fukushima. We know that life has not been easy but yet you continue to be part of the movement for change, for safe environment, for justice, peace, and freedom and for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Friends – These times are hard, but they will pass . . . history has told us so . . . we must remain hopeful and courageous . . . Just as our friends who have passed on over the years . . . Honoring them at this moment with gratitude in our hearts and remembering most vividly their powerful voice

“NEVER AGAIN!”. . . Senji Yamaguchi, Sumiteru Taniguchi, Nelson Anjain and many others, . . . Let us not forget.

We know that there are work to do, lessons to learn and unlearn. I am afraid I don't have any new recommendations to make. We have to go back to the basics . . . information dissemination, analysis, strategize, lobbying different sectors and stakeholders, maximizing media, providing platforms for enriching the voice of the marginalized, building a critical mass that would ensure readiness when our struggles are at its tipping point. There is no hard and fast rule that could guide us except for our willingness to learn from history and the good heart and mind to follow our dreams. Our dreams define us . . . it our life

Let me close with a quote from Clarissa Pinkola Estes:

“Ours is not the task of fixing the entire world all at once, but of stretching out to mend the part of the world that is within our reach. Any small, calm thing that one soul can do to help another soul, to assist some portion of this poor suffering world, will help immensely. It is not given to us to know which acts or by whom, will cause the critical mass to tip toward an enduring good. What is needed for dramatic change is an accumulation of acts, adding, adding to, adding more, continuing. We know that it does not take everyone on Earth to bring justice and peace, but only a small, determined group who will not give up during the first, second, or hundredth gale.”

(<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=548>)

In that spirit, I wish to thank the international relay peace marchers this year from the United States, France, the United Kingdom, Taiwan, Korea, Japan and the Philippines, your presence hopefully have provided encouragement especially to young people like you – you have made the 60th year of the Peace March more meaningful. I wish to call on the young people present in this hall to listen to the signs of the times. And respond by giving your time, talent and treasure to pursue a world that is peaceful, just and secure. So many words will be said, and linkages and networks formed and pursued. For many of us in my generation, we value and treasure the presence and commitment of the young people. You are the precious sector that will move us forward. So I hope this is the beginning if not the continuity of the important work that you have chosen, as my generation have decided to embrace in our youth, decades ago. And I assure you, there is no place better than this struggle. Thank you. We shall overcome!

Yamamoto Takashi General Secretary, All Okinawa Coalition Against New Construction of Henoko Base

Struggle of Okinawan People : Opposing US Bases in pursuit of “Democracy and Peace” Guaranteed by the Japanese Constitution

I am grateful for the opportunity to speak about the anti-US base struggle in Okinawa despite the tight time schedule of the meeting.

Today, about 18% of the land area of Okinawa Island is occupied by US military bases. Okinawa Prefecture accounts for only 0.6% of Japan's total land area, but it is forced to host about 70% of the entire US military facilities stationed in Japan. These facilities are under the exclusive management of the US troops. And now, the US is trying to build a new offshore base in Henoko, Nago City.

I am going to talk about reasons why Okinawans have been so tenaciously resisting the US military presence imposed by both Japanese and US governments. In my opinion, there are in fact three major reasons.

First, none of the Okinawan people agreed to the construction of any US bases in the prefecture. Before the Battle of Okinawa 72 years ago, the Japanese Army did not have any major base in Okinawa. In 1944, in preparation for the Battle, Japanese troops hastily built 15 airfields there. It is clear that their construction was not enforced through what we would call today a “reasonable and democratic” process.

As soon as they disembarked on Okinawa in April 1945, the US troops began building their bases by confiscating and expanding the airfields and other facilities formerly used by Japanese troops. After the Battle of Okinawa had ended, the surviving local people were confined in cramped POW concentration camps while their lands were taken by the US forces, as if the United States had the right to arbitrarily draw borders on a blank map.

By signing a Peace Treaty on April 28, 1952 in San Francisco, Japan recovered its sovereignty in exchange for abandoning Okinawa under Article 3. Later, many US bases that had been located on the Japanese mainland were concentrated into Okinawa. Most of the US marine bases, accounting for 60% of the current US bases in Okinawa, were built in that period. US troops used “bayonets and bulldozers” to deprive local people of their lands and repeatedly plundered their properties. Another base extension took place in the 1960s during the escalation of the Vietnam War. All the current US bases in Okinawa were built during these four

periods. During that time, Okinawa was placed under the occupation of the US military, which allowed the US to plunder local people's private lands with violence, without going through due procedure for the construction of bases.

On May 15, 1972, Okinawa was returned to Japan and began to be governed under the Japanese Constitution, in particular Article 9. Naturally, the local people's lands, which had been robbed with unlawful violent means under US military occupation to be used for US facilities, should have been returned to them unconditionally, but this did not happen. Even now, 46 years since the reversion of Okinawa to Japan, these lands are kept by the US military.

However, no new base has been built so far since the Japanese Constitution took effect in Okinawa. The Henoko base would be the first base to be built through official procedures under Article 9.

Second is the fallacy that the Henoko base would replace the Futenma Base, contributing to the removal of risks related to the latter base and leading to its closure.

The Futenma Base is located right in the center of a densely-populated area. Many private houses are located just next to the base across a thin fence. In the past, a US Defense Secretary visited this aberrant base, saw it from the sky and said that it was the most dangerous airfield in the world.

Okinawa hosts 60% of all US marines deployed in Japan. Marines cannot conduct any operation unless they are deployed with naval forces. There is however no large-scale naval base in Okinawa. The two major US naval bases in Japan are located in Yokosuka (Kanagawa Prefecture) and in Sasebo (Nagasaki Prefecture). Okinawa is an island surrounded by coral reefs, and therefore does not have any coast where large ships can dock. There is, however, one place on the coast where the water is more than 50-meters deep. That is Oura Bay, located just next to Henoko.

The construction of the new Henoko Base for Marines and a naval port at Oura Bay was planned 50 years ago in 1966. The original plan met with a setback for some reason, but it has been revived now. However, a former Japanese Defense Minister has acknowledged that even if the new base is built at Henoko, the Futenma base would not be returned to Japan unconditionally.

Third, the land reclamation work and the construction of the Henoko new base can never be completed even if massive amounts of Japanese taxpayers' money is poured into them.

First, this is because Henoko and its surroundings, as well as Oura Bay, are host to groups of sub-tropical plants and rare species of animals. Many dugongs, which are internationally

protected animals, as well as endangered coral species live there. There is an ongoing campaign to register the natural environment of these areas, including the Amami Area, on UNESCO's World's Natural Heritage List. Many experts point out that landfill work necessary for the base construction would destroy this precious nature and ecosystem.

There are two active faults near the area where the runway is planned to be built. It is feared that a major earthquake would have catastrophic consequences. In addition, it is reported that the ground near the same area has a layer lying 40-meters deep that is as soft as mayonnaise with "zero N value". This makes the reclamation work at the Oura Bay impossible. If the construction should be completed, it would require large-scale soil improvement work, which is not initially planned. The soil improvement work alone would cost some trillion yen.

The runway safety standard set by the Pentagon requires a height limitation of about 55 meters for buildings within a radius of 2 kilometers from the runway. The planned runway is located in the least elevated reclaimed area, while residential areas like Toyohara District are situated on a nearby hill. The National Technical College, Kube Elementary and Middle Schools, a post office, as well as private houses with two stories or more all conflict with the safety standard. From the beginning, any runway, civilian or military alike, built on the coast of Henoko, would be extremely dangerous. It is time to call off the Henoko new base construction plan once and for all.

Okinawa Prefectural incumbent Governor Onaga was elected to his post 4 years ago, publicly promising that he would oppose the new Henoko Base and fight for the closure of Futenma Base and cancellation of Osprey deployment. He has fought side by side with the people of his prefecture. The Japanese Defense Ministry has notified the prefecture that it will start reclamation on August 17, dumping soil in the Henoko area. Governor Onaga has declared that he will take administrative action to cancel the authorization for the landfill given by the former governor. If this happens, we anticipate there will be another court battle against the Japanese government.

We plan to hold an Okinawa prefectural people's rally on August 11 in Naha City demanding that they "stop the landfill operation and scrap the Henoko new base plan."

We will do our utmost to develop the all-Okinawa movement to establish "local autonomy, democracy and peace" guaranteed by the Constitution. I hope that you will continue to give us support and solidarity both at national and international levels.

Statements:

Nagao Yuri **Vice President, National Confederation of** **Trade Unions (Zenroren)**

I am Nagao Yuri, Vice President of Zenroren, the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Japan. It is now over one year since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations. The period of over one year since then made us time and again confirm the true value of the TPNW and Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution to defend peace and security of Japan and the world.

One year ago, under the heightening military tension between North Korea and the United States, we could not live another day without wishing that the nuclear button would not be pressed due to any misunderstanding or misinformation, or by accident. Once used, the consequences of nuclear weapons will totally be unacceptable regardless of friendly or enemy forces. The only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used again, I believe, is to abolish nuclear weapons on earth. So, I hope that the TPNW, which will open the way to it, should take effect even a day earlier.

Further, given the increasing danger of contemporary war going nuclear, it is of utmost importance to prevent the outbreak of war. I therefore heartily want all parties in conflict to have dialogues between them. The ROK-DPRK summit talks took place last April, and the US-DPRK Summit followed in June. Witnessing the start of the peace process through dialogue and diplomacy, I feel confident that by making use of Article 9 we can contribute to the settlement of the problem.

The TPNW and Article 9 are our hope to lead Japan and the world to peace. Besides, they embody Hibakusha's deep desire. Prime Minister Abe and his Administration, however, are taking disruptive attitude to both of them. The international campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal and the 30-million signature drive to stop Abe's attempt to revise Article 9, are the two important signature campaigns that will put an end to the Abe government and bring about a non-nuclear government that will work for peace. Even at this moment there are many friends of ours and colleagues who are engaged in distributing leaflets or showing their signs on the street, or who are visiting people door-to-door to ask for signatures. We are determined to do our utmost to attain the target of 30-million signatures reflecting the voices of "No to War", so as to be able to hand over a world without nuclear weapons and without war to our

children.

In my Confederation, young members have been activated through the 30-million signature campaign. Some of those who participated in the union's study tour to Okinawa felt that they "learned in Okinawa that the war was not really over", and that they "had to learn a lot more". In reviewing the tour, they decided to take up the Japanese Constitution as a "temporary text" to read, and are studying its Preamble and the constitutionalism.

"Constitution Café" is springing up here and there, where people discuss questions picked up from conversations among young people, such as: "What should we do if North Korea invades us?", or "Will there be any change if Article 9 is revised?"

After learning, tempted to speak publicly what they learned, young people started actions. Engaged in the public speech outdoors through microphone, signature collection, or any other form of action for the first time, they further realized that young people tend to stop and listen to the speeches when they spot fellow youngsters as speakers, thus deepening confidence in their own actions. Besides, the dialogue-style publicity action, unique to young people, such as a "mock voting" on the street using stickers; serves as a fresh stimulant to veteran activists.

In industries, unionists are talking about the relationship between their jobs and the Constitution. Port workers, for example, take up in their conversation the bitter experiences in history. During the last war, sea ports were turned to logistic bases and were thus made targets to enemy's air raids. Or during the Korean War they had to be engaged in loading and unloading of guns, ammunitions or even dead bodies at gunpoint of US military. Port workers unions are now united regardless of difference in organization or affiliation in refusing to transport earth and sand used to fill Henoko Bay for the new US Base in Okinawa. Without peace, neither life nor daily living, nor jobs, nor even pride as workers can be protected. That is why unions are active in peace movement.

Zenroren will mark the 30th anniversary of the formation in 1989. We are very proud that Zenroren's Mission Statement adopted at the founding Convention upholds our commitment to prevent nuclear war and abolition of nuclear weapons, and we have been active and committed to it since then. Let me conclude my speech by assuring you that by building broader unity and solidarity we will fulfill our mission as a trade union confederation of this A-bombed country.

John Steinbach
Co-Coordinator
Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Committee of
the National Capital Area
U.S.A.

On behalf of the Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area, I bring heartfelt greetings and solidarity to the World Conference against A and H Bombs. For the past 37 years our committee has worked to abolish nuclear weapons and nuclear power. We have sent numerous delegates, including youth delegates, to the World Conference. In return, we welcomed Gensuikyo Delegations to the United States. As we work together to establish a nuclear-free future, we look forward to continuing and further strengthening our grassroots collaboration.

Since 1983 our committee has partnered with Nihon Hidankyo to bring the testimony of the Hibakusha to the Washington, DC area. Each August we welcome a delegation of A-bomb survivors and organize public events. We support all radiation survivors. From St. George, Utah to Semipalatinsk and from Chernobyl to the Marshall Islands, our Committee has welcomed radiation survivors worldwide.

Looking back over the past seventy-three years, our movement to abolish nuclear weapons achieved many victories. After Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the world has not seen the direct use of nuclear weapons. Since the height of the cold war, the number of nuclear weapons has been reduced from over 70,000 to approximately 15,000. In 2017, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was passed at the United Nations. For these and other victories the global anti-nuclear movement, especially the Hibakusha, deserves the credit. Despite this, the world remains precariously balanced on the knife edge of nuclear annihilation.

Since the abrogation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty by the U.S. in 2002, NATO dramatically expanded eastward and destabilizing anti-missile systems are deployed along Russia's border. Meanwhile, the United States, under Obama, initiated an unprecedented trillion-dollar nuclear weapons buildup, a program being significantly expanded under Trump. In response, Russia began its own, more modest, nuclear buildup. Alarming, this nuclear stand-off is occurring during a time of extraordinary international instability and precipitously escalating hostilities between the nuclear powers. Because of this and other global crises such as climate change and increased competition for dwindling natural resources, in 2018 The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists moved

the hands of the Doomsday Clock to two minutes to midnight, the closest since 1953.

Numerous international polls show strong support for nuclear disarmament. It is our urgent task to translate this support into an inexorable popular movement capable of compelling the nuclear powers to meet their obligation to disarm under Article VI of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT).

Today, our key organizing challenge is to resolve internal differences in order to unite our movement for the crucial struggle ahead. Our priority is to make the public aware that the nuclear threat is real and escalating. Our best strategy for abolishing nuclear weapons is to link demands for a nuclear free world with broader demands to reverse the unjust social, economic, environmental, and military policies that gave rise to the nuclear madness.

The annual remembrance of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is a time to come together and recommit ourselves to establish a just peace, oppose militarism, and abolish nuclear weapons.

Sisters and brothers, as we return to our homes let us rededicate ourselves to our unfinished work. Until we rid the world of the scourge of nuclear weapons and the threat of nuclear catastrophe, our job remains unfinished. We solemnly pledge to continue to work together in unity until nuclear weapons are forever abolished.

No More Hiroshima! No More Nagasaki! No More Hibakusha!

In October of 1982 while protesting the initial deployment of the USS Ohio, the first Trident submarine, I wrote the following song I'd like to share:

A Warning Wakeup Call

Our struggle must continue for the job has just begun.

Our sacred planet now is facing thermonuclear Annihilation.

Chorus: Hiroshima-Nagasaki were a warning wake-up call,

So, let's resist the war-makers and to the struggle give our all.

Making Peace is never easy, for the call to war is strong.

Peace through strength may be their motto, but an unjust peace is wrong.

Chorus:

Nuclear madness death machine makes mockery of life.

With every breath we take, against it we will fight.

Chorus:

Fukushima Daiichi - radiation far and wide.
TEPCO Power said no problem, but we all know
they lied.

Chorus:

Our work for peace and justice is a job that's never
done.

Black, Brown and White we are together for our
struggle it is one.

Chorus:

Our struggle must continue for the job has just
begun.

Our sacred planet now is facing Ecological
Annihilation.

Chorus:

Parijat Bhandari
Executive Member, Afro-Asian People's
Solidarity Organization of Nepal

Make the Earth and Space Free of Nuclear
Bombs

It is my pleasure and privilege to participate in the 2018 World Conference, representing Nepal AAPSO. Japan Council against A and H Bombs or Gensuikyo has been holding such conference every year to build solidarity among the people of world for world peace to make this earth free from the catastrophe of nuclear and hydrogen bombs.

I salute Gensuikyo from the core of my heart for undertaking such an urgent humanitarian task at a time when the earth is replete with thousands times greater bombs than the ones that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 6 and 9 of 1945. The two devils Atom bombs were titled by the nick names Little Boy and Fat Man who instantly killed thousands of people and made others terminally ill because of the effect of those bombs. I would like to express my sincere respect to the departed souls and the survivors of the great human-made disaster for the first time on the earth.

My name is Parijat Bhandari, and currently I am an executive member of Nepal AAPSO. We in Nepal too, every year we are launching Hiroshima-Nagasaki Commemoration Day Program as national level to pay homage to atomic victims, and to express solidarity with Hibakushas. August 6th and 9th of 1945 were blackest and fateful days in the history of human civilization and these days are recorded as the massacre of humanity. We show our solidarity with the people of Japan in general and to

the Hibakusha, the victims of the A-bombs in particular.

Nepal is a peace-loving country, the birth place of Gautama Buddha, and we have been always at the forefront to raise our voice for completely banning the existing ones, which at any time either by mistake or otherwise, could wipe out the humanity. Nepal understands the pain of the danger created by the A and H bombs as we too are surrounded by nuclear power countries like China, Pakistan and India. Nepal firmly opposes any type of war, imperialism, colonialism, terrorism, all kinds of racial discrimination, hegemony and armaments. Nuclear experts say, there are still over 17000 nuclear warheads and 4300 of them in a deployed status, around the world. Some countries of nuclear power have not yet signed the CTBT and NPT. Today also, no one can say the Hiroshima-Nagasaki terrible crime will not be repeated in any part of the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to briefly highlight the present situation of Nepal. Nepal entered a new era in 2015 after the promulgation of new constitution passed by the constituent assembly and Nepal has now become a federal republic country, and three tier elections have been successfully held since the new constitution coming into effect.

It is our pride that KP Sharma Oli, who is the former Chairman and now Patron of Nepal AAPSO, is now the Prime Minister of Nepal and Head of government of two-third majority, after having a landslide victory for his party, NCP, in the last parliamentary election. We hope Nepal will gain the support from our friendly countries like Japan in our pursuit of peace and development.

In the end, I would like to thank Gensuikyo once more for inviting us to participate in this great conference. On behalf of Nepal AAPSO, I would like to assure to Gensuikyo of our constant support and solidarity in our common goal of freeing the



world from A and H bombs.

We have been collecting signatures every year from the citizens of Nepal in response to the appeal of the Hibakushas, and we will continue to do so in coming years too. Finally, make the earth and space free of nuclear bombs and save the humanity from another human made tragedy.

I wish the conference a grand success.

Jerald Ross
Treasurer, Campaign for Peace,
Disarmament and Common Security
U.S.A.

Hello and respectful greetings to our Japanese hosts and to all those assembled here from across the globe. My name is Jerry Ross and I come from the United States where I live in the State of Massachusetts, near Boston.

It is a great honor to be here, but also a profound sorrow. We gather on the 73rd anniversary of the terrible crimes committed by my country in the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. No words of apology can relieve the terrible suffering caused by these horrendous attacks, but nevertheless, I express my deepest regret to all the Japanese people, to the citizens of those two cities, and especially to the Hibakusha who have suffered most tragically of all. But we also meet to continue the struggle to relieve the world of the scourge of nuclear weapons, and for our energy and determination we must be grateful.

Let me say just a word about who I am and how I came to be here today. I began my opposition to US military actions as a conscientious objector during the Viet Nam War, where after induction I served two years' civilian duty. But then for my professional career, I worked with mentally ill and homeless individuals, and only supported peace actions through contributions to amnesty international and similar groups, participation in the nuclear freeze movement, and through informed interpersonal dialogue. It was only in my retirement that I have become directly involved in nuclear disarmament efforts.

I am a member of the Unitarian Universalist faith and work actively in my church to raise awareness of this issue and to engage members of my congregation in peace activities. Unitarian Universalists (or UU's) have a permanent office at the United Nations, and I worked with them to support the passage of the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I am also a member of Massachusetts Peace Action, through which I have worked on many disarmament

activities, including political efforts, educational conferences, and local protests, including one recently at Hanscom Airbase. That military facility has been designated a lead role in communications for the US nuclear arsenal and its planned expansion. During that peaceful demonstration, I was among those arrested. I work to educate others through frequent letters to newspapers and by convening dialogues with interested groups. Finally, I serve on the Board of Directors of the Campaign for Peace Disarmament and Common Security, an organization newly formed by Dr. Joseph Gerson, to promote global peace and disarmament.

I would like to share my impressions of the status of nuclear disarmament efforts in the United States, and to say why I believe this conference is so important. At the outset, I must express my discouragement at what seems to be a very low level of understanding about nuclear weapons among the majority of Americans. Most, I think, believe nuclear arsenals ended with the "cold war" and have little appreciation of the numbers of nuclear weapons that remain and the danger they represent. Of those who are aware at all, the majority regard nuclear weapons as a "necessary evil" that "keep America safe." So, the immediate challenge is to educate people about the destructive power of these weapons and dispel the myth of "nuclear deterrence." Practical, but very difficult, steps focus on re-establishing congressional control over nuclear weapons and abolishing outdated "cold war" policies that keep missiles on high alert and targeted. We also need to raise awareness of the incredible cost of these weapons and how military budgets rob our society of desperately needed resources. We especially need to derail the current plan to spend over a trillion dollars "modernizing" our arsenal. We need to increase understanding of the humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear arms, remind people of America's obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and build support for US participation in the UN Treaty to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons.

In closing, I must comment on the current political environment in the United States which further complicates what was already a difficult struggle for nuclear disarmament. Those of us who worried how terrible things might become under a Donald Trump presidency were wrong. It is far worse than we even imagined. Not in our wildest dreams did we anticipate the breadth of his attacks on our political institutions and the norms of our society. Nor did we recognize the depths of collusion the Republican Party would descend in order to retain power, nor Mr. Trump's capacity to sow divisiveness among our people. Although

American constitutional protections are strong and there is great resistance among our population, many of us feel we are in a struggle for the survival of our country as we have known it.

And so, for all these reasons, that is why this conference is so valuable. It provides a unique opportunity to link peace movements across the globe, to remind us of the terrible consequences of war and especially of nuclear weapons, and to forge joint strategies to move beyond this dangerous period in human history. To remember what happened at Hiroshima and Nagasaki is important. To prevent it from ever happening again is essential.

**Choi Eun-Soon
Co-Representative
Korean Women's Associations United
(KWAU), R.O.K.**

**Build a System of Peace on the Korean
Peninsula Conducive to Achieving Sustainable
Peace and a World without Nuclear Weapons**

Dear friends, I am pleased to meet you. My name is Choi Eun-soon. I am a co-representative of Korean Women's Association United (KWAU). KWAU was founded in 1987 as a coalition of progressive women's organizations. Its goal is to realize a sustainable society of gender equality, democracy, well-being, peace, and unification. It has seven chapters and 28 member organizations. It has been fighting against discrimination against women, violence, exclusion, and hatred. In order to let gender equality guide society, KWAU stages diverse activities based on a gender-mainstreaming policy to promote legal and institutional reforms and spread awareness of equality and peace. In 2017 and 2018, we campaigned under the slogans "Gender equality is essential for democracy," and "Let us call for gender justice to bring substantial changes to women's lives" in campaigns including the following: actions in the presidential election and the nationwide local elections; in the movement for gender equality to be constitutionally established; in various actions calling for abortion to be taken out of the criminal code, for an anti-discrimination law to be enacted, and for gender-equality systems to be rebuilt; in relation to deliberations at the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); and in the #MeToo movement.

As everyone knows, South Korean society has undergone transformative changes since 2017. People's power, which found expression in public actions, stopped conservative and reactionary

trends to overcome evils that have prevailed in the country for many years, and succeeded in winning a change of government. Civil society, which had been ignored and even oppressed by successive conservative governments, is regaining dynamism little by little. That South Korean society is being transformed is proven by two developments in relation to peace. One is progress in inter-Korean relations and a move toward establishing a system of peace for the Korean Peninsula. The other is people's demand for changing the social structure that causes violence and discrimination.

I think that these two elements represent substantial changes that have never taken place previously. The first one stands for the right to live in peace in a world free of war and nuclear weapons. The latter is related to the global issue of human security, or active and sustainable peace. It is about the right of everyone to live in peace, free of violence and fear, as established as a norm of universal human rights (stipulated in UN Security Council Resolution 2282, UN General Assembly Resolution 70/262, etc.)

The 36 years of colonization and 70 years of division have not only posed dangers due to the military confrontation and national security tensions, but they have also had enormous impacts on individual lives and social culture. The prevalence of militarism and a solidly established system of patriarchy afflicted the lives of Korean women. The issue of the comfort women, who were forced to provide sexual service to Japanese army soldiers, the problem of women in US military camp towns, discrimination, violence, hatred, and exclusion of women in South Korean society – these are all linked to the militarism that surged in the context of war and division.

The inauguration of President Donald Trump's administration in the United States was followed by a lot of talk that there might be war in the Korean Peninsula. But there was a turn of events relating to the PyeongChang 2018 Olympics. After an inter-Korean summit, North Korea and the United States held a summit on June 12. North Korea closed its test site for missile engines and began recovering and returning the remains of US soldiers missing in action during the Korean War. It has also stopped slandering the US. US President Donald Trump has returned gratitude for North Korea's action. There are signs that mutual trust is taking shape between North Korea and the United States. The relations between North and South Korea are being restored faster than the US-North Korean relations. The two Koreas have agreed to stop slandering each other in compliance with the Panmunjom Declaration and to hold reunions of families separated by the Korean War. Exchanges and humanitarian cooperation are

developing between the North and the South. Although people's call for an end of hostility to be declared on July 27 (the day of armistice) was not met, it appears that a declaration of the war's end is a fait accompli. Women's organizations, including KWAU, other civil organizations, and a majority of the South Korean people are supporting the April 27 Panmunjom Declaration. They wish for the full implementation of the Declaration's paragraph 3 of section 3: "During this year that marks the 65th anniversary of the Armistice, South and North Korea agreed to actively pursue trilateral meetings involving the two Koreas and the United States, or quadrilateral meetings involving the two Koreas, the United States and China with a view to declaring an end to the war and establishing a permanent and solid peace regime." We are also joining our forces to prevent the pledge expressed in paragraph 4 of section 3 from being reneged on: "South and North Korea confirmed the common goal of realising, through complete denuclearisation, a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. South and North Korea agreed to actively seek the support and cooperation of the international community for the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula."

Making the Korean Peninsula nuclear free and building a peace regime on the Korean Peninsula is an important issue that has direct bearing on Northeast Asia and the rest of the world. At a time when the Korean Peninsula stands at a historic turning point, civil society movements are called upon to develop international solidarity for achieving peace in Northeast Asia. In this respect, I want to express my gratitude to the Organizing Committee for the World Conference against A and H Bombs.

I can deeply relate to the World Conference, which is based on the idea of seeking a peaceful and just world without nuclear weapons and which upholds three key objectives: the elimination of nuclear weapons, the prevention of nuclear war, and support for the Hibakusha. I would like to express my deep respect and solidarity to the New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin), the Women's Peace Fund, and all those who are involved every year in the preparation and holding of the World Conference against A and H Bombs. KWAU and Women Making Peace participated in the World Conference in 2005, 2006 and 2007. We have continued exchanges with *Shinfujin* although we need to do more. I am happy to be able to meet them in this significant assembly.

I hope that this World Conference will provide civil organizations and movements from various countries with a place to share experiences and deepen solidarity and cooperation in the effort to realize a world without nuclear weapons and

improve human rights. On behalf of an organization working mainly for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, I want to learn from what our friends around the world are doing and share our activities with them.

The Japanese anti-nuclear peace movement is fighting against Prime Minister Abe Shinzo's government, which argues for the importance of the US nuclear umbrella under the pretext of the threat of North Korea, refuses to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and even seeks to abandon the peace Constitution by adversely amending Article 9 in order to push ahead with Japan's rearmament. The Japanese movement is also reaching out to the world's people in support of the Hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is speaking for the Hibakusha.

We sympathize with activities staged by the Japanese anti-nuclear movement. I hope South Korean activists share your experience. Our citizens are living in the only divided nation in fear of nuclear weapons and war. I'm sure that they sympathize with the message of the Hibakusha. Given the fact that 210,000 Hibakusha includes 70,000 Koreans, the issue of the Hibakusha is an important issue in Korea as well as in Japan. Solidarity between South Korea and Japan is exactly what we need. I hope this will provide people with an opportunity to keenly feel once again the importance of peace and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. But, if Japan is to be recognized as a responsible member of the international community, it should take a hard look at the fact that the 70,000 Korean Hibakusha are not just Hibakusha but also victims of conscription under the colonial rule.

Japan must offer an apology and compensation to Korean war victims for the cause of universal and active peace on the global dimension and make efforts to resolve the issue. Japan must make efforts to help resolve the issues related to the victims of national mobilization carried out by Japanese imperialism during the period of occupation (which includes the issue of returning the remains of victims, the issue of Koreans in Sakhalin, and Korean Hibakusha). If such efforts are made, the universal values of the call of the Japanese anti-nuclear movement for a world free of nuclear weapons will be shared more widely and deeply by Korean citizens. I believe that citizens' solidarity between the two countries will be even more active. Friends, establishing a system of peace in, and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula cannot be realized solely by the will of the leaders of the North and the South. It needs cooperation and support from the international community. South Korean citizens and various kinds of actors in various fields

should develop exchanges and new cooperation between North and South and make genuine changes happen so that sustainable peace becomes part of people's daily lives.

International solidarity among civil societies is also important. If trust is built and if the peace process makes smooth progress toward doing away with war threats on the Korean Peninsula, the Abe government would no longer be able to use the threat of North Korea as a pretext for its policy. I hope that building peace on the Korean Peninsula paves the way for a world without nuclear weapons.

After the first North Korean nuclear test in 2006, when the Six-party Talks were under way in 2006 and 2007 for the resolution of North Korea's nuclear program issue, KWAU stressed that achieving peace on the Korean Peninsula needs a more active approach that goes beyond "normalization of relations through denuclearization". We founded the Northeast Women's Conference for Peace with the aim of organizing solidarity with and support of women in the countries participating in the Six-party Talks. KWAU played a central role in four sessions of the conference between 2008 and 2012. The World Conference against A and H Bombs reminds me of KWAU's experience in those days. We would like to make use of the World Conference to explore the way of solidarity by invoking the imagination of the world's women to achieve lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula and denuclearization of the peninsula.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to report to you that KWAU and its member organizations announced the women's peace declaration for ending war on the Korean Peninsula.

The declaration set out the following demands:

- Declare an end of war on the Korean Peninsula and adopt a peace agreement;
- Make the world, including the Korean Peninsula, nuclear-free;
- Turn the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) into a zone of peace and turn the Northern Limit Line (NLL) into a zone of peace;
- Cut back armaments and increase funding for social services and environmental protection from the point of human rights;
- Guarantee fully inter-Korean people-to-people exchanges;
- Allow women to participate on an equal footing with men in the negotiating team for the building of peace on the Korean Peninsula in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which is about women and security.
- No Women, No Peace!

Let us consider methods for implementing peace by imagining a word that can fill the blank below:



Rabindra Adhikari
National Coordinator
Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council/
World Peace Council

**Message of Solidarity and Greetings from the
WPC to the World Conference against A&H
bombs in Hiroshima 3rd August 2018**

Dear friends and fellow fighters for a world without nuclear weapons, for a world of peace and social justice!

We convey on behalf of the WPC our full-hearted solidarity for one more time to the families of the victims of the horrible imperialist crime of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the USA and to the Hibakushas heroes who have survived the nuclear holocaust.

We salute the friends of the Japanese Peace Committee with which we share the same aspirations in the Secretariat of the WPC and the common struggle for peace in the world, free from imperialist domination and hegemony.

As World Peace Council we are from the very first moment of our existence in support of the complete abolition of all Nuclear Weapons. Our "Stockholm Appeal" signed then by more than 400 million people, speaks for itself. Today this Appeal is valid maybe more than ever before!

Dear friends, the world in which we live is going through tremendous threats for peace and security of the peoples.

The "Pivot to Asia" policy of the US, for shifting 60 % of their military power to the region is being further implemented by the new US President Trump, along with the powerful 7th Pacific Fleet of the US Navy, the more than 200 US Military Bases in the region, including Japan and South Korea, the bilateral military agreements of the US, with the upgrade of which even troops will be deployed in various countries, as its already the case with tens of thousands of US troops in the

region. The particular interest of the US and its allies in the area is about the geostrategical control of the whole area, its sea routes and natural resources. But it is also in order to contain the emerging PR China.

The WPC supports all struggles against the US military presence and maneuvers in the region. In Okinawa, a struggle involving broad sectors of society is further growing against the construction of a new US Marine Corp Base in Henoko/Nago City. The WPC express its solidarity with these movements in Okinawa and mainland of Japan.

The WPC is following with concern the developments in the South China Sea, particularly about the territorial disputes between several neighbouring countries. We support the peaceful settlement of differences bilaterally and multilaterally between all involved parties. We call upon all sides to refrain from any unilateral actions which may further complicate the situation; we reaffirm our principled position for the respect and implementation of International law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which guarantees the sovereign rights of all countries. We are strongly against the militarization of the area as well as the military presence and actions of non-regional powers, notably the US, which has clearly its own motives and interests. We demand their withdrawal from the region and call upon all sides to de-escalate militarily the situation.

The WPC EC expresses its serious concern about the growing religious strife and fundamentalism in South Asia which are used to divide the peoples' struggles.

The situation in and around the Korean peninsula for the first time after many years bears hopes for the de-escalation and normalization of the relations between the two Koreas. The WPC saluted the Inter-Korean talks and summits as they express the desire of the Korean people for the national reunification. In regards to the talks between the DPR of Korea and the USA we welcomed the fact and underline the need to seek for diplomatic and peaceful solution without delay, which will lead to the end of military threats of the USA and its allies, the dismantlement of the THAAD and the withdrawal of the US troops from the South of Korea, along with the complete denuclearization of the peninsula. The WPC position in favor of the right of the DPR of Korea to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity together with its natural resources proved to be right.

The WPC reaffirms its principle position on the abolition of all Nuclear Weapons and its opposition to the testing of any nuclear armaments. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (adopted

July 7. 2017) is a milestone leading towards their total elimination, the long cherished aspiration of the Hibakushas and the peoples of the world. The treaty recognizes that nuclear weapons are inhumane with catastrophic consequences if ever used again, and they counter to the U.N. Charter and International law. All states should sign the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons without delay. Nevertheless the WPC does not rely on this subject alone by "sitting and counting" the numbers and states which have ratified the treaty. We are aware that meanwhile we have to target the ongoing imperialist crimes and aggression in the world, which are being carried out with heavy and sophisticated weapons, but conventional ones. At the same time we underline the fact that the USA is the only country which has used such weapons in history. Moreover it does not refrain from a first nuclear strike option, on the contrary it has introduced it also to NATO, which has adopted it in its Warsaw summit in 2016.

It is obvious that in the South-East Mediterranean region and more broadly in the Middle East, the competitions for the control of resources, the transport routes of energy and products, and the geostrategic control are increasing. Such antagonisms occur across the globe, from the Arctic to SE Asia, from the Caucasus to the Balkans and Africa. The economic trade war that manifests itself between the United States of America, the EU, China and other major powers, is intensifying. The whole planet looks like a volcano that is currently showing small explosions but seems to be preparing bigger and bigger ones as history has shown.

This situation also underlines the duty of the people to struggle against interventions and imperialist wars; to develop and strengthen the people's movement in a struggle that will turn against the causes that create this situation.

The reactionary and imperialist plan for the "New Middle East", endorsed by the US, NATO and the EU, with their open military intervention and in cooperation with the reactionary regimes of the region, has added new suffering on millions of people who fled for their lives to all neighboring countries. Their aim was and is the control of energy resources and supply lines and the geostrategical control of the area with new borders and new compliant regimes.

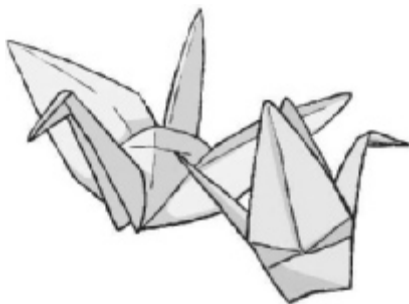
The war-mongering and interventionist policy of the great powers, allied with local reactionary forces, is ever more intense throughout the Middle East. Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Lebanon and Yemen are targeted by imperialist aggression and destabilizing interventions. The WPC reiterates its condemnation of the US and its European allies, Turkey, Israel and the despotic Gulf monarchies,

which have supported directly or indirectly, financed and trained mercenary and religious extremist groups to attack Syria, at the cost of millions of lives. The WPC denounces the aggression against the Yemeni people, which is being fully supported by the USA and demands the end of the siege and the right of the Yemeni people to decide alone and freely their matters.

A key issue for the whole Middle East remains the just cause of the Palestinian people for their own independent State and the end of the Israeli occupation. We condemn the crimes committed by the Israeli army against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, especially in the Gaza Strip, that has caused a bloodbath, murdering in cold blood unarmed demonstrators, men, women, and children. The provocative decision of the Trump administration to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital and to move there the US Embassy, over and against the general international outcry, has completely fed the aggressiveness of Israel that continues the illegal occupation of Palestinian territories and continues massacring the Palestinian people. We express our solidarity and our support to the Palestinian people and to its just struggle in favor of its own independent and sovereign Palestinian state within the pre June 4th 1967 borders, with its capital in East Jerusalem. We continue our struggle and we call the peoples to strengthen their demonstrations so that the murderous military intervention of the Israeli Army in Palestine ceases and to revoke the decision of the USA to move its Embassy to Jerusalem.

Dear friends, before closing our speech we would like to draw your attention to one important international initiative which the WPC supports and endorses.

On 16-18 November this year the International Conference against US and NATO foreign military Bases will be held in Dublin/Ireland. We consider the foreign military Bases as instrument of wars and also of domination towards the "host countries" and its peoples. The people of Japan know too well about the role of the foreign military Bases. We call upon all peace loving organisations to support and participate in this international conference.



Reference Paper:

Donald Mellman International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War/ University of the Middle East Project, U.S.A.

I am honored to be here today as a representative of two separate organizations, each with an important role to play as we strive to make the world free of nuclear arms.

However, first I want to say, how personally satisfying it is to be in Japan. In today's world with its uncertainty and concern for the political leadership, which is too often paranoid and narcissistic with an emotional and political intelligences that are prone to poor judgement, vigilance is required. Japan has always been a bastion of the culture of a rights-based order and the worth of respect. Japan was the site of the horrific events of August 1945 in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which we now remember, and the home of the Hibakusha, whom we now honor. Japan is now important in North Asian economic security and is one of the few remaining examples of the post-World War II order, which brought progress and prosperity to millions.

I bring you greetings from the Secretariat of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. IPPNW is a non-partisan, global federation of independent chapters from sixty-two countries, including Japan, as represented by Japanese Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, headquartered as part of the Hiroshima Prefecture Medical Association. IPPNW's current co-presidents are from Australia, India, Nigeria, and the United States.

IPPNW was started by a group of Harvard-based physicians and prominent Soviet Union physicians in 1982, all concerned about the humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons.

IPPNW was awarded the UNESCO Peace Education Prize in 1984 and has been the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize twice: in 1985 as an independent organization and again in 2017, as part of ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, a coalition of non-governmental organizations in one hundred countries promoting adherence to and implementation of the United Nations Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted in New York in July 2017.

Physicians treated, and continue to treat, the victims of the 1945 nuclear catastrophe and spread the lesson that we must not let these horrific weapons be used again. Physicians are now

educating the public on the less well-known catastrophic consequences of nuclear war beyond the horror of death and destruction caused by nuclear blast, firestorms, and intense radiation. It is now known that even a limited nuclear exchange, such as between India and Pakistan, would cause enough of a dust cloud worldwide to harm crops throughout the globe for twenty years, leading to enormous crop loss, widespread famine, and severe loss of life – threatening two billion people with death. A full-scale nuclear war would increase the size of the dust clouds to cause global climate cooling such that human life and that of many other species would be threatened with extinction.

The second organization which I am honored to represent is the University of the Middle East, an NPO, founded in 1997, based in Boston, Massachusetts in the US. UME is focused on the training of educators from the Middle East and North Africa region as well as the United States in the vital peacebuilding skills of conflict management and mediation. Its annual Oleander Initiative, named for the first flowers that bloomed

in the irradiated areas, is represented here today. Education will influence on the next generation and meaningful change be made through politically intelligent methods.

Our fight to rid the world of nuclear weapons must be politically smart. IPPNW and UME are here to help us be politically intelligent as we move forward in our noble intent.

Yes, I am “speaking to the choir,” but what a choir we must be. As Edmund Burke said, “When bad men combine, the good must associate; else they will fall one by one, ... All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.” We are “the good;” those with nuclear weapons, are “the bad.” We must continue “the good fight” with political skills of the highest order, but also with passion and determination. We must never give up hope. We will win; we must win; or life on earth as we know it, with the next use of nuclear weapons, will forever change.

IPPNW’s mantra is central to our mission: “Nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought.”



Closing Session (August 4)

Reports from Workshops:

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

John Steinbach Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area, U.S.A.

The workshop was called to order by the First Chair, Ms. Yamada Hiroko. The Second, Third and Fourth Chairs, Mr. Suresh Paudyal, Ms. Yamamoto Noriko and Mr. John Steinbach introduced themselves. Ms. Yamada welcomed the participants and called for an “interactive discussion.”

Following “housekeeping instructions” from Ms. Yamada, there were 15 presentations made by 14 individuals. Following is a brief summary of their remarks.

1. Mr. Maruyama Minoru, Nagano Gensuikyo, called for support for the Hibakusha Appeal initiated by Nihon Hidankyo. He called on the workshop to “respect Hibakusha leadership”. He informed us that Mr. Fujimori is the Nagano Hibakusha leader. He informed the workshop that Gensuikyo and Gensuikin cooperate together in support of the Hibakusha Appeal.

2. Mr. Katano Kenji, Kanagawa Gensuikyo focused his remarks on building the Peace March, with 20 organizations cooperating from May 7 - 13. Over 150 Hibakusha attended. The march was “People Friendly.” Some Hibakusha were in their 90s. Over 10,000 visited a ten-day A-Bomb exhibit.

3. Ms. Isobe Noriko, Shizuoka Association of Second Generation Hibakusha spoke about helping their mothers and fathers run the local Hibakusha association. They requested Shizuoka Prefectural government for better health evaluation of Hibakusha. The Hibakusha are getting older and sicker. They are working on getting a health book for second generation Hibakusha.

4. Mr. Yokoe Hideki, Aichi Gensuikyo, talked about building the connections between the US military bases and support for Hibakusha. He pointed out the US Airforce and the JDF carry out joint military exercises using the F-35B, a nuclear capable warplane. He pointed out that a nuclear attack against DPRK from US bases is possible.

5. Ms. Watanabe Keiko, New Japan Women’s Association of Kanagawa, talked about

Humanity and the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. They have collected the testimony of 500 Hibakusha and are adding new members.

6. Mr. Mizuno Tokie, Hiroshima Hibakusha from Aichi talked about her experience in the bombing & being rescued by a neighbor. She reported that there are about 2,000 Hibakusha living in Aichi organized into 7 blocks comprising Aichi Hidankyo. The Hibakusha are getting old and she became the Aichi Hidankyo President. A Second Generation Hibakusha Association has been formed to help parents spread the message. They have supported Hibakusha’s successful class action lawsuit. She reported about a photo exhibition to educate children.

7. Mr. Furuta Mitsue, a second generation Hibakusha of Hiroshima talked about a national forum of the second generation Hibakusha held in Kyoto in 2017. The forum provided place for sharing information, researches on health effects, questions of the 2-km limit, their own health records, works with children from Chernobyl and Fukushima. Hibakusha of Hiroshima also educate school children.

8. Mr. John Steinbach, Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area, USA, talked about the Committee’s work with Nihon Hidankyo for the past 35 years and called on the gathering to support Hibakusha and their children.

9. Mr. Oya Masato, Nagasaki Gensuikyo & Nagasaki Citizen’s Association to Promote Hibakusha Signature Campaign talked about the 5 Nagasaki organizations organized to support the Signature Campaign. They are working on translating Mr. Taniguchi Sumiteru’s final video message into all the world’s languages; the latest are Portuguese and Tamil.

10. Mr. Sakuma Kunihiko of Hiroshima Hidankyo talked about the Signature Campaign. Seven Hibakusha organizations in Hiroshima cooperated under the unifying theme of “abolition of nuclear weapons.” He pointed out that media involvement is critical to successful campaigns. As of May, they have collected 412,600 signatures. He became active after retirement.

11. Mr. Ohmura Yoshinori reported that Aichi Hidankyo conducted a survey on the second generation Hibakusha. Results were added to a national survey summary. 183 responses were obtained but only 6 were willing to testify. He told his own story as a second generation Hibakusha.

12. Ms. Imura Hiroko, Hyogo Gensuikyo, reported Hyogo Hidankyo played a central role in the Nuclear-Free Hyogo Campaign. Only 5 of 47 Prefectures are not nuclear free. There was a successful Signature Campaign. Effort for

cooperation between Gensuikyo and Gensuikin has yet to borne fruit.

13. Dr. Saito Osamu reported that the class action medical lawsuits to obtain justice for Hibakusha continue. Despite many successes, it is hard to prove causality between the A-Bomb and specific cancer and that epidemiological studies are necessary. He talked about his 37 years at a Hiroshima Hospital and the past 9 in Fukushima. It's hard to prove hereditary effects of radiation but any genetic effects will affect Hibakusha in later years.

14. Ms. Hara Reiko, Hidankyo Consultant, works with Hidankyo to give advises and consultation to Hibakusha. The average age of Hibakusha now exceeds 82 and over 10,000 died in the past year. She's concerned that it is harder for Hibakusha to be active in the movement.

15. Mr. Shoichi Ohya made a second presentation about organizing a photo exhibit. He researched the identity of a boy in an A-Bomb photo and informed his siblings. Analyzing another photo, he determined the Nagasaki mushroom cloud was 4,400 meters high. He wants to reach out and record more Hibakusha testimony.

Workshop II: Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons; Role of Peace Movements and Civil Society; Promotion of the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; Overcoming Nuclear Deterrence Doctrine

**Khum Prasad Sharma
Global Network Against Weapons and Power in Space - Nepal and
Saito Shunichi
Association for a Non-Nuclear Government, Japan**

First of all, I would like to thank all the participants of the workshop for their wonderful deliberations on different titles related to the topic assigned. I would also like to thank the chairperson group for providing me an opportunity to summarize the basics of the session. The workshop was really successful in the sense 17 participants spoke and more than 60 participants exchanged their ideas on nuclear free society.

According to the speakers, the present situation on the nuclear front is alarming. No country is prepared to back track and everyone looks at the other. Pakistan looks at India, India looks at China. Nepal looks at India and China. Russia, China and

North Korea look at America. The fact remains that the United States has a moral responsibility to act. But unfortunately this is not taking place. After the nuclear weapons ban treaty, new disarmament politics have come into front. The workshop participants confirmed that we have to teach the young pupils about the treaty.

The following are a brief summary of comments from the floor.

From Japanese activists on the movement in the A-bombed country:

- The adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons inspired many citizens of Kanagawa Prefecture, giving them a renewed conviction that the elimination of nuclear weapons is possible. We see positive changes in the attitude of municipalities. 32 of the 34 municipal heads in the prefecture, including the governor, have signed the Hibakusha Appeal. Indeed, the change that has taken place in the past 18 months is immense. In order to press the Japanese government to change its attitude, and to have the Prohibition Treaty to enter into force, we need to make a big leap in the international signature campaign in support of the Hibakusha Appeal.

- The Hyogo Prefectural Federation of A-bomb Suffers' Organizations produced a poster carrying the message of 15 municipal heads including the governor and Kobe City mayor with their face photos, which reads: "I support the Hibakusha Appeal. Please sign." The governor is known to be a faithful supporter of Prime Minister Abe's policies and had refused to sign the Hibakusha Appeal until last year. Three factors: the adoption of the Prohibition Treaty, the proposal for a nuclear-free world made by his opponent during the gubernatorial election last summer, and Hibakusha's unrelenting fight influenced the governor to change his attitude. The change is significant.

- The Prohibition Treaty adopted last year legally determined that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil. The key to defeat the "nuclear deterrence" doctrine and the starting point of the movement is the facts about the damage caused by the atomic bombs. I want the overseas delegates, particularly the young participants to visit the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

- Whether or not we can defeat the "nuclear deterrence" doctrine depends on our ability to reach out to as many people as possible to tell them about what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and about the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. In Yamanashi Prefecture, Peace March Organizing Committee hosted the "A-bomb Pictures" exhibition. They displayed 63 paintings produced

by 63 students of Hiroshima Motomachi High School who depicted the damage and the experience of the Hibakusha in pictures after hearing their stories. The exhibition drew 400 people in two days: July 8 and 9. It was covered by a local TV station and newspaper.

From Oversea Delegates:

- The adoption of the Prohibition Treaty at the UN Conference was possible because of the persistent effort of the Hibakusha, who kept calling on the UN to ban and eliminate nuclear weapons. It is the victory of the citizen's mobilization. We should not overestimate or underestimate the treaty. The important thing is to increase public opinion in support of the abolition. (France)

- We know we have been doing the right thing. Sometimes it seems to be no end, no victory to our struggles, but in Henoko, Okinawa, people continue to fight. The construction of a new base has started but people never give up. Never forget, Never give up. In solidarity, being connected, let us fight on. (The Philippines)

Workshop III: Solidarity & Cooperation of Movements against Nuclear Weapons with Other Movements for: Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; Eradication of Radiation Damage; Zero Nuclear Power Plants; Environment; Development; Overcoming Poverty & Social Gap and People's Living

**Matsushige Miwa
Vice-President, Japan Federation of Prefectural and Municipal Workers' Unions (JICHIROREN)**

In Workshop III participants discussed the theme: "Solidarity & Cooperation of Movements against Nuclear Weapons with Other Movements for: Peaceful Settlement of Conflicts; Eradication of Radiation Damage; Zero Nuclear Power Plants; Environment; Development; Overcoming Poverty & Social Gaps and People's Living". As the theme was all-inclusive, we were worried about the outcome of the discussion. But, thanks to participants' active contribution, the meeting was very significant.

I think the participants shared the common recognition that issues begin with the real state of people's livelihood. The common recognition was that any government should prioritize policies that ensure a decent life for all people. Such policies

must not be provided in exchange for military buildup. This means that a productive life cannot be founded on war. We also shared the recognition that spreading common concerns and truths is essential for solving problems.

A participant representing "All Okinawa" said, "There cannot be peace without people's self-supporting life." Four years ago, in Okinawa's gubernatorial election, supporters of candidate ONAGA Takeshi campaigned in opposition to the former governor's acceptance of new US military base construction at the Henoko district of Nago City, calling for no more bases in Okinawa. They showed an estimate that if the US base sites were returned, Okinawa would secure revenue several times more than the government subsidies granted in exchange for accepting the US bases. Their estimates for the future helped Onaga's election. Okinawa is located in the center of East Asia and is serving as economic hub. It's very important to promote economic development in Okinawa.

A labor union activist from the United States said ending war will help end poverty. She said money is taken out of the education system, making it difficult for young people to be equipped with the ability to do jobs. Going to college is so costly that one may opt to join the military.

A delegate from Iwakuni City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, spoke about problems of the US Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, which has been dramatically strengthened. The base area has been enlarged by 40 percent. Two runways are in place enabling landing and a takeoff can happen at the same time. A 30,000-ton ship can come alongside the berth. More than 120 US military aircraft are deployed to the air station. F35B nuclear-capable fighters are deployed to the base. The Iwakuni delegate said that the mayor assured the citizens that the government subsidies would be used to make school lunch free, provide free medical services for children up to junior high school students, and to make the city the Japan's best municipality to help in raising children. At a meeting the city held to explain its policy, a parent spoke to welcome the policy of making school lunch free. The delegate said in anger and sorrow that she had to point out, "Everyone should know what the US Iwakuni base has done and that innocent women and children have been killed by US servicemen before expressing satisfaction with the free school lunch."

In the concluding remarks, Kawamura Reiko, another co-chair of Workshop III, said, "The global questions facing us are inter-related, and that solidarity is a source of strength to pave the way for their solution."

Opening Plenary

2018 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

Allow me on behalf of the Organizing Committee of the World Conference against A & H Bombs to deliver the Organizer's report, which also touches on the International Meeting.

I would first like to offer my condolences for those who died in the rain disaster that hit a wide area of western Japan, including Hiroshima, Okayama and Ehime, from July 5 to 8. I also would like to extend my sympathy on behalf of the World Conference against A & H Bombs to all those who are forced to endure poor living conditions at shelters. As stated in the Declaration of the International Meeting, our friends in Hiroshima have determinedly dedicated their energies to preparing the holding of this World Conference

while at the same time working hard day after day in sweltering conditions to help the disaster-hit people and rebuild the infrastructure.

Friends, the International Meeting of the World Conference against A & H Bombs unanimously adopted the Declaration, the copies of which have been delivered to you. I hope this document will be used as the keynote of your discussions that start today. I will take this opportunity to explain about the Declaration. Please take a look at the text.

The Declaration begins by stating that the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 73 years ago marked the first-ever use of nuclear weapons against humanity and that these two bombs caused an inferno in the two cities.

The tremendous energy released by the atomic bombs when they detonated caused heat rays, a blast and radiation which assaulted the city and the lives of the people there.

Buildings on streets as well as houses were entirely destroyed by fire, and people were annihilated. Even those who barely escaped instant

death, began to die one after another due to serious burns or acute radiation damage. About 140,000 people died of the atomic bombings by the end of the year in Hiroshima and 70,000 in Nagasaki.

Those hibakusha who barely survived the radioactive inferno have suffered from leukemia, cancers and other delayed effects of radioactive illnesses. Today, 73 years after the atomic bombings, the health of many hibakusha continues to be undermined by various illnesses like cancer and liver disorder. Their lives are constantly threatened.

Diseases are not the only cause of the hibakushas' emotional suffering. Many of them have had to endure emotional wounds left by their extremely tragic experience. They even have a sense of guilt for failing to save their family members or friends. They were the victims of insensitive discrimination by society. They have been forced to endure poverty and loneliness in connection with their illnesses and emotional suffering. The lives and livelihoods, the physical and mental health of the hundreds of thousands of hibakusha were constantly tormented.

The damage and aftereffects of the atomic bombings tell us that the use of nuclear weapons should be described as the worst crime against humanity. Nuclear weapons are threatening the survival of humanity. I would like to reiterate my strong call on the world for action to get nuclear weapons to be completely eliminated as swiftly as possible.

Dear World Conference participants, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted at the UN Conference marked a historic step toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

The Declaration of the International Meeting says that contention is growing sharper between the forces promoting the Treaty and the opponents.

The nuclear weapon states are denouncing the Treaty by arguing that "nuclear deterrence" is indispensable for the security of the world. They at the same time are continuing to modernize their nuclear arsenals and strengthening their first use policy. However, as the Declaration severely points out, what might be described as a resurging US-Russian nuclear arms race, is testimony to the danger that the so-called nuclear deterrence will make the world more dangerous instead of making the world secure.

The Declaration forcefully points out that the current calling for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons is growing as the mainstream of world opinion. I would say this represents an unshakable trend. The Declaration also says that the trend for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, however, is steadily growing as a

mainstream in the world. Nothing can prevent the TPNW from entering into force. The foundations of the backward current of nuclear weapons possessing countries and other pro-nuclear weapon countries are vulnerable and do not provide prospects for a bright future. Given that the doctrine of nuclear deterrence is premised on the possible use of nuclear weapons and that it would bring about irreparable damage to human beings, the argument that nuclear weapons are necessary for national security is becoming less and less persuasive and is, in fact, failing.

Friends, the key to advancing to "a world without nuclear weapons" of course is the further development of public support and the people's movement. The Declaration is right when it says that if we build further on such cooperation between civil society and governments that led to the adoption of the TPNW, we can make headway by overcoming various obstacles. It goes without saying that the development of public awareness and the people's movement is very important in countries that rely on the nuclear umbrella. We should have confidence in this direction and make powerful strides.

Friends, the inter-Korean summit and the subsequent US-DPRK summit have paved the way for a historic move toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the creation of a peace regime in the region. With the hostility since the Korean War coming to an end, if Northeast Asia becomes the base for launching messages for peace and denuclearization, it will have a positive impact on the situation in Asia and the rest of the world. The World Conference against A & H Bombs, which has consistently called for a peaceful resolution of the region's crises sincerely welcomes this historic move.

As the Declaration correctly points out, the series of positive developments can be seen against a background of increasing trend in public opinion against nuclear weapons and for peace in many countries. I must say that clearly, the fundamental power that helps this process become successful lies in public opinion.

The World Conference against A & H Bombs urges countries of the world to negotiate in earnest toward achieving the goals and to implement the agreement.

Friends, creation or reinforcement of nuclear weapon-free zones and an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) are also important tasks to be achieved. The Declaration points out that the convening of an international conference for the establishment of a zone free of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East is an urgent task.

Although the US Trump administration has withdrawn from the Iran nuclear deal, we hold fast to the demand for a diplomatic resolution of the differences.

It is important to call for a solution to the Palestinian issue based on the right to self-determination and justice. We call for an end to the use of force and military intervention in Syria and intensified diplomatic efforts to help achieve the settlement of the civil war through political dialogue.

Friends, the World Conference against A & H Bombs strongly calls for all regional disputes to be resolved diplomatically and peacefully through dialogue.

The Declaration expressed the International Meeting's solidarity with the movement calling for a nuclear weapon-free and peaceful Japan. The Declaration correctly points out that in no time in the past has the Japanese government been called on to do its part as the government of the only atomic-bombed country (so much as it is now). But the government is firmly opposed to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making people more disappointed and drawing criticism. The Japanese government should immediately sign and ratify the Treaty.

Friends, it goes without saying that at issue is Japan's heavy reliance on the US nuclear umbrella and nuclear deterrence. The government must stop pushing ahead with the strengthening of US military bases in Japan on the pretext of the threat of North Korea. We are in firm solidarity with Okinawans in urging the government to immediately cancel the plan to construct a new US base in the Henoko district of Nago City, which tramples on the dignity of Okinawans. As the Declaration points out diplomacy guided by Article 9 of the Constitution, which declares the renunciation of war and war potential, is the right way to join the current for peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Friends, let us renew our determination to advance the Japanese movement powerfully in response to the solidarity extended by the Declaration.

The key to winning the further development of public awareness and the movement is to expose the inhuman nature of nuclear weapons. It is increasingly important for the civil society movement led by hibakusha to work along with young people to make the damage and after-effects of the atomic bombings known widely and to emphasize the urgency of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. It is important more than ever to further develop joint action between the civil society movement and national governments.

Friends, as the Declaration emphasizes, let us

develop a grand movement that will pave the way for a world free of nuclear weapons by overpowering the resistance put up by the forces clinging to nuclear weapons. Let us build up public opinion and the movement to help the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons go into effect at the earliest possible time.

The next NPT Review Conference is slated for 2020. Let us continue to urge the Five Nuclear Powers to implement the existing agreements and fulfill their obligations provided by the NPT. Following PyeongChang, the Olympic Games will take place in Asia in succession (Tokyo 2020 in summer and Beijing 2022 in winter). Let us use these opportunities to build a peace regime in North East Asia, as well as a nuclear weapon-free Korean Peninsula, to make this region a foundation for sending out messages for a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons.

Friends, confirming these positions the Declaration proposes four actions led by the international hibakusha signature drive to collect hundreds of millions of signatures by 2020, the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings.

I hope that these proposals will be discussed from today in this World Conference in order to give them substance. I ask you all to hold fruitful discussions.

Friends, as the Declaration strongly points out, the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons shows clearly that the world is entering an era which is not dominated by a handful of great powers and that the future course of the world should be determined by all countries participating in discussions on an equal footing. The time is now for the civil society movement to contribute to resolving any serious international problems by raising awareness of public opinion. Convinced of this point, let us make big strides towards a world without nuclear weapons.

Message from Hiroshima Mayor:

Matsui Kazumi

Mayor of Hiroshima City

(Delivered by Masauji Akio, Chief of the Civic Affairs Bureau)

First of all, I extend my sincere condolences to those who lost their loved ones due to the recent torrential rain and express sympathy to all citizens in the areas affected by the disaster.

The City of Hiroshima is now putting all its efforts into searching for missing persons, supporting the victims as they rebuild their lives and rebuilding roads and transport links.

In the face of this disaster, the citizens of Hiroshima and many people from all over the country are giving us their support in various ways. I would like to thank all of them sincerely on this occasion and ask you all for your continuing support and solidarity.

On the occasion of the 2018 World Conference against Atomic and hydrogen Bombs- Hiroshima, I would like to say a few words of greetings.

Ladies and gentleman, welcome to Hiroshima. In the name of the 1,190,000 citizens of Hiroshima, I would like to welcome you from the bottom of my heart. I also would like to express my sincere gratitude for your steady and active work for the elimination of nuclear disarmament and the realisation of eternal world peace.

On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was laid waste by an atomic bomb, which is an 'absolute evil'. Many innocent precious lives were lost and also the lives of those who barely survived were significantly disrupted by the consequences of physical and mental aftereffects, discrimination and prejudice. Such a hell is not a thing of the past at all. As long as nuclear weapons exist and there are leaders who would indicate their potential use, we find ourselves in a situation that this could happen to anyone at any time.

Thus, we need to know what happened 73 years ago below the mushroom cloud, so that we can spread throughout the world the earnest desire of the Hibakusha for the abolition of nuclear weapons that no one should ever again experience such catastrophe and tragedy, and pass it down to the next generation.

One year has passed since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by the United Nations, which prohibits the use, stockpiling, deployment, threat of use, etc., of nuclear weapons. In the meanwhile, ICAN, an organization that contributed to the formation of the Treaty was rewarded the Nobel Peace Prize. Thus, in civil society, the importance of knowing the reality and aftereffects of the atomic bombing and the spirit of the Hibakusha, in making efforts for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realisation of a peaceful world has been widely recognized. However, those countries relying on nuclear weapons have not changed their attitude against this Treaty. I hope that the leaders of all countries be aware that the efforts to negotiate in good faith towards nuclear disarmament is a legal obligation stipulated under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, beyond which "a world without nuclear weapons" is the desire of civil society, and that the nuclear ban treaty is a necessity to embody a nuclear weapon-free world.

The City of Hiroshima believes that it is

important for civil society to help create an environment which would encourage courageous actions from the leaders of the countries dependent on nuclear weapons towards the abolition of nuclear weapons. With 7600 member cities/regions of the Mayors for Peace spreading in 163 countries in the world, we would like to do our best to ensure that the spirit of Hiroshima for peace based on the experiences of the hibakusha becomes a common value in the civil society and furthermore to communicate it to the leaders around the world as a consensus of civil society.

To achieve "a peaceful world without nuclear weapons", it is necessary to rally the efforts of civil society desiring for it and willing to take action. In this respect, it is significant that the "2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs- Hiroshima" is being held, where many peace-aspiring people assemble and stand with the hibakusha. It is my sincere hope that this conference will be fruitful as an occasion to renew our commitment to peace.

In concluding, I wish the conference a great success and wish all of you here today good health and many successes in your future activities.

Greetings of the Hibakusha:

Fujimori Toshiki

Assistant Secretary General

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

Thank you for the introduction. I'm Fujimori Toshiki of Hidankyo.

In July, more than 200 people in western Japan lost their lives in the torrential rain. I offer my condolences and sympathy to those in western Japan, including Hiroshima, which was hit hardest by the disaster. I want to thank all those who have come from around the country to offer help.

I am one of the many who were exposed to radiation from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima by the U.S. military on August 6th 1945. I was 16 months old. Mine was a big family of 12, with my grandfather, parents, six sisters, two brothers, and myself. Two of my sisters and two of my brothers had evacuated from the city of Hiroshima to escape the air raids. All eight of us who remained in Hiroshima were exposed to the atomic bomb radiation.

One of my sisters, who was 13 years old, was in the first year of girls' high school. She had been on student mobilization to assist in the demolition of buildings 400 meters from the hypocenter. Directly hit by radiation, heat rays, and blast waves, 676

people, including teachers and students, were killed. In Hiroshima, 8,400 students in the first and second years of junior high school were mobilized to demolish buildings, and an estimated 6,300 of them were killed.

On that day I was ill and had been taken to a hospital on my mother's back. At the very moment she was walking up a bank in Ushita, Hiroshima, my mother detected the roar of a B29 bomber, and then the bomb exploded. We were blown off the bank and fell down toward the river. A two-story house between us and the hypocenter protected us from being directly hit by the heat rays. My mother climbed up the bank holding me in her arms and saw the area in flames and smoke billowing into the sky above the central city. The area in Ushita where our house was located was also in flames. My mother and I escaped to a nearby mountain in Ushita to avoid the flames. The rest of the family met on the mountain, but my fourth sister who was in the first year of a girls' high school did not come back. The next day, my father and eldest sister went down the mountain into the area near the hypocenter. My fourth sister remained missing. They searched for her day after day but her body was never recovered. Meanwhile, I was kept wrapped in bandages, except for my eyes, nose, and mouth. They thought I would die anytime soon. But I overcame every bout of illness and have lived on for 74 years.

After that, each year on August 6th, my mother would gather all her children to share her story of the atomic bombing. I remember seeing tears streaming down her face. I once asked her why she dared to tell us about her difficult experience. She said, "Because I don't want any of you to ever experience the same suffering again." Thinking back on what she said, she was, in fact, calling for a world where there would never be any more hibakusha again.

After the end of the Pacific War, the United Nations was established on October 24th, 1945. On January 10th the following year the First UN General Assembly was held in London. It adopted Resolution No.1 to establish "a committee to deal with the problems raised by the discovery of atomic energy". This resolution called for the "elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction." Had this resolution been respected, a nuclear weapon-free world would have been achieved.

Unfortunately, in the Cold War between the East and West blocs, nuclear weapons were not eliminated. On the contrary, such weapons spread to nine countries--the U.S., Russia, Britain, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, and North Korea. Currently, 14,450 nuclear warheads exist. If these

nuclear weapons are used, mankind will not survive.

Since 2010, the non-nuclear states of Norway, Mexico, and Austria have held an International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons independent of the UN. They have engaged in tenacious discussions on issues such as the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference and a joint statement at the UN General Assembly First Committee.

We hibakusha have continued domestic and international efforts to call for "No more hibakusha", sharing our personal stories to let people know that the use of nuclear weapons is a crime against humanity. In April 2016, we called on the world's people to sign the International Hibakusha Appeal, and the following year on July 7th, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at a UN conference by a majority. The Japanese government, the only A-bombed country in the world, remains opposed to the treaty and refuses to ratify it.

In the world, there are people who have the wisdom to want to eliminate nuclear weapons. There are also people who cling to nuclear weapons that could destroy our planet. Which group of people will save humanity?

I conclude my speech by expressing the hibakushas' pledge to do their utmost to fight together with you to achieve a nuclear weapons-free world.

Greetings of Solidarity:

Fukuyama Shingo Co-chair, All-Out Action Committee to Stop the War and Scrapping of Article 9

I'm Fukuyama Shingo, Co-chair of the All-Out Action Committee to Stop the War and Scrapping of Article 9.

Thank you for inviting me to your Gensuikyo's conference honored with a long history of struggle. I feel nervous but at the same time profoundly moved. Here today I am not representing Gensuikin. So I do not touch upon the issue related to the history of the movement of Gensuikin and Gensuikyo, but I think the question for both organizations now is how to overcome the past problems to move ahead the Japanese movement against A & H bombs.

Frankly speaking, many of the Japanese movements for peace, democracy or for better society in the post-WWII period have been divided, described as either Communist party-led or non-Communist. Against this backdrop, the All-Out Action Committee started in December 2014 to get

the War bills aborted, in overcoming the division of the movement, which was the major weakness in Japan's peace and democracy movements. It has since enlarged the tasks for joint struggle, built up momentum, and is playing a major part in the joint struggles of the opposition parties.

What drove us then was a deep understanding that as long as we remain divided, we would be unable to stop the outrageous policies of the LDP-Komeito government led by Prime Minister Abe. Joint struggle represents the strong desire of all who wanted to take on the responsibility for Japan's future. The Japanese movement for peace and democracy has now moved from an era of division to a new era of joint action. We now stand on a new stage.

On May 24, the Gensuikyo-backed Organizing Committee of the World Conference issued an appeal. Referring to the struggle for "No to Abe's revision of Article 9 of the Constitution, Stop the construction of the new base at Henoko, Zero nuclear power plants and the eradication of poverty and social gap" in addition to the "struggle for the elimination of nuclear weapons", it said: "Now that a broad range of cooperation is developing in opposition to the revision of the Constitution, let us extend our invitation to such organizations and individual citizens who have so far not taken part in our conference to join us, and thus ensure the success in the conference with the largest possible participation." This invitation was also extended to our All-Out Action Committee. So, in a hope that the movement against A and H bombs, too, will come to stand on a new stage, I decided to stand here to extend greetings of solidarity on behalf of the All-Out Actin Committee.

Friends, in the course of the latest ordinary session of the Diet, misappropriation of the state power by the Abe government, corruptions in the bureaucracy, politics on lies and many other unbelievable evil deeds were revealed one after another. The move to change Article 9 and the rush to turn Japan into a war-waging country or a military superpower have not stopped. Although Japan is the only A-bombed country, it opposed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and is even playing a criminal role, betraying expectations of the anti-nuclear peace movements across the world. On June 12, the historic US-DPRK Summit took place and a major trend for denuclearization and peace was created in the East Asia. Yet the Japanese government is still unable to understand the role that it should play. As regards the nuclear power phase-out, although there is still no prospect for the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant to be brought under control, it set out a new basic energy plan in which

priority is given to nuclear power generation, and thus following the policy to operate more nuclear power plants. The tasks to support Hibakusha, recognize A-bomb diseases, and help A-bomb affected people and 2nd and 3rd generation Hibakusha all remain inadequate.

As regards the construction of a new U.S. base at Henoko, Okinawa, some 80% of the Okinawan people are against it and people continue their sit-in and other forms of protest every day. The declaration of Governor Onaga Takeshi that his "determination to not allow a new base to be built in Henoko remains unshaken", made before Prime Minister Abe on the anniversary day of the end of the battle on Okinawa on June 23, stuck deep in our heart. Still, riot police forces are sent from the mainland, and the construction of the base continues by force. Due to Abenomics, the problems of poverty and social gap are deteriorating. These are the present state of Japan which the Abe government has brought about. The destiny of such a development will be a war mongering country, military superpower, and fascism. Can you live with the Abe government? No, we certainly cannot.

To stop the political rush of the Abe's LDP-Komeito government and to make an era where nuclear disarmament, support of the Hibakusha, end to nuclear power generation, Article 9, prevention of the construction of the new base in Okinawa, peace and democracy will all prevail, all of us citizens, groups and opposition parties have to struggle in cooperation and solidarity. If we stay split, we will not be able to defeat the Abe government. Our future will be found only in the cooperation and joint struggle. This World Conference of Gensuikyo has called for the widest possible cooperation and the broadest possible participation. I am convinced that this conference will mark a big step forward to open further development of our struggles. To open our "future", let us carry on together.



Statements by the Government Representatives:

Jamie Walsh
Deputy-Director, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Ireland

It is an honour to be with you here today to take part in this important conference and share Ireland's perspective on nuclear disarmament. It is deeply humbling to be in the presence of so many activists that have dedicated their lives to the cause of humanity and to the achievement of a world free of nuclear weapons.

In his personal message to the Conference this year, the President of Ireland highlighted how your work has been instrumental in placing the humanitarian purpose of disarmament at the centre of the nuclear weapon debate. As he says:

'It reminds us that we are engaged in disarmament not for its own sake but because of the effects that these terrible weapons have had on people. Ordinary people: ordinary mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, daughters and sons who suffered the appalling and generational consequences of the use of the most destructive weapon ever invented'

Too often, this simple but important aspect of the discussion on nuclear weapons has been absent. National security interests and the prevailing security environment are, of course, legitimate concerns and should be carefully assessed. However, Ireland believes the international community must acknowledge that nuclear weapons respect no boundaries. Their poisonous fallout has the potential to damage human, animal and plant life across continents; pollute our shared resources and cause famine and changes to the climate that would devastate humanity.

The common feature of Ireland's disarmament foreign policy has consistently been to highlight how the unrestricted use and spread of weapons, both conventional and weapons of mass destruction contributes to human rights abuses and hinders development.

Indeed, it was this humanitarian imperative that first led Ireland to become involved in the cause of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation at the height of the Cold War. Many people have remarked how 2018 signals the 50th anniversary of the opening for signature of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. However, 2018 also marks **60 years** since Ireland's then-Foreign Minister, Frank Aiken, introduced the first of the so-called 'Irish

Resolutions' to the UN General Assembly, which would eventually lead to the adoption of the NPT.

The NPT developed into one of the most innovative and successful treaties that the international system has ever created. Yet, it emerged from an era of fear, at a point in time when the spread of nuclear weapons seemed unavoidable. Despite this fear, the NPT's foundations are built on trust, trust in mankind's ability to turn back from the nuclear proliferation abyss; trust to use nuclear technology exclusively for peaceful means; and trust to negotiate effective measures on nuclear disarmament.

When confronted with the argument that security conditions are not ripe for further progress on nuclear disarmament, it's useful to remember that the NPT emerged at a time of intense international pressure.

But reflection on such proud moments also brings with it a cause for concern. Concern that many of the hopes and promises contained in our collective agreements remain unfulfilled. The fallacy of 'more useable nuclear weapons' and a limited nuclear exchange is one of the most troubling to have rematerialized in recently. This conference provides us with an important opportunity to counter this type of discourse and focus on the reality of nuclear use; to ensure that the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki are never repeated.

Ireland's attention has always been centred on the weapon itself and the impact of the weapon, not on the actor or on the context. As the former UNSG once said, there are 'no right hands for the wrong weapons'. Given the increasing risks surrounding the existence and potential detonation of a nuclear weapon, either by accident, by miscalculation or through a deliberate act of terrorism or of war, it is time that we focus, in depth, and with greater focus on how to implement our obligations without delay. In a United Nations where resources are increasingly challenged across the board, states have a responsibility to ensure that the multilateral, rules based system on which we depend delivers concrete, tangible results.

We also must take a dynamic approach to disarmament. After all, it is a cross cutting issue with direct relevance to issues such as Climate Change, the Environment and Sustainable Development. Ireland has worked hard recently to ensure that the disproportionate impact of ionising radiation on women and girls is recognised and to call for women's voices to be heard clearly and given equal weight in the nuclear weapons debate. Such discussions should be mainstreamed into nuclear disarmament discourse.

Our focus must be on those commitments that

can secure our future, commitments we made in the Sustainable Development Goals and the Climate and Migration Agreements, in UN Resolution 1325 and in our obligations to protect fundamental human rights.

Put simply, we, as both States and Civil Society, must respond to the unprecedented global security challenge which we face with ambition, not fear. We must rededicate ourselves to the object and purpose of multilateral disarmament and all that it stands for, which is a world order, founded not on mistrust of one another, but on faith in one another.

Indeed, it was with this spirit that States and Civil society approached the negotiations leading to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; a truly ground-breaking legal instrument that finally puts in place a workable legal framework for the total elimination of nuclear weapons. Given the key role played by survivors and the impact that their powerful testimony has around the globe, it is wholly fitting that the role of the Hibakusha is directly and prominently referenced in the Treaty.

There have been some suggestions that the TPNW somehow undermines the NPT by creating a separate legal instrument. Such arguments create a false dichotomy between both treaties. For Ireland, a founder member and original visionary of the NPT process, prohibition is a logical and moral imperative. Our firmly held view is that the best way to protect the NPT is to implement it. The TPNW allows us to do exactly that by filling the legal gap that exists in the NPT's disarmament provisions. We must reject, as loudly as possible, any claims to the contrary. With respect to the existing disarmament and non-proliferation regime, the TPNW *is* practical; it *is* complementary; and it is now a reality.

I mentioned numerous anniversaries throughout my remarks and, in closing, would like to mention one more. 2018 marks 20 years since the Good Friday Agreement was concluded – an agreement that, despite entrenched positions and deep-set divisions, brought a negotiated and lasting peace to the island of Ireland. Given the savage violence and harrowing suffering throughout the conflict in Northern Ireland, many believed that such an agreement was not possible. Irish poet and Nobel Laureate, Seamus Heaney perfectly captured the atmosphere when he wrote that ***“We lived deep in a land of optative moods, under high, banked clouds of resignation”***.

The same atmosphere of resignation can often take over nuclear disarmament discussions; a feeling that the problem is somehow too great to challenge and too entrenched to overcome. This is why the work of this conference and the role of civil society in general is so vital. It reminds us that

popular opinion is on the side of abolition; it energises and ignites our ambition to achieve meaningful progress; it rolls away the clouds of resignation.

Go raibh mile maith agut agus beir beannacht.
(Irish language) .

Seiko Ishikawa
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 and fraternity at this World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the US attack with atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, cities that were completely destroyed with terrific humanitarian consequences.

These atomic attacks, the only one of its kind carried out to date, and its devastating destruction have left a lasting truth, denunciations and lessons of a global reach that demonstrate the rejection of the international community against the threat of use and the use of nuclear weapons.

The source of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela's position on nuclear disarmament is clearly included in our National Constitution of 1999, which expressively establishes the promotion of nuclear disarmament, the cooperation between nations, and declares the Venezuelan geographical space as a place of peace, and furthermore prohibits the production and use of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons. With this sustenance and firm ethical spirit, Venezuela has expressed its profound pacifist will, that has taken us to be a part of the first free zone of nuclear weapons, consecrated in the Treaty of Tlatelolco in 1967, which includes all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and to underwrite the declaration of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), as a Peace Zone in 2014.

On March 27th 2018, Venezuela consigned the instrument of ratification of the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons to the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, being among the first ten countries in the world that ratify this legal instrument.

The ratification of this historic document demonstrates the unwavering will of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to advance in the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in addition to strengthening the nonproliferation regime and the promotion of disarmament. It is the greatest

development in recent decades in this important subject that has direct implications for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Last February, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela, Jorge Arreaza said at the Ministerial Session of the Conference on Disarmament at the United Nations held in Geneva that "Venezuela offers its strong support to all initiatives oriented to the total disarmament of nuclear weapons and their elimination. However, the international legal law, designed to fight against threats to the peace and international security, are violated by the double standards of the countries that love armament and warmongering."

A nuclear power, like the one presided over by Donald Trump, threatens Venezuela with a military invasion and applies measures and unilateral coercive sanctions to cause suffering to our People. In this regard, the Government of Venezuela deplores the actions that promote militarism and assumes its full unrestricted commitment to peace, dialogue, international security and nuclear disarmament as priority objectives.

I wish to convey the government and peoples of Venezuela's gracious salutation to the Hibakushas, who have honored us with numerous visits to Venezuela, on board the Peace Boat. This year, 2018, we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the first visit to Venezuela of four Hibakushas in late November 2008, as part of the Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World and Peace Boat Hibakusha project. During their two weeks in Venezuela, the Hibakusha took part of a series of forums, cultural exchanges and visited hospitals, universities and national and regional media, sharing their strong calls for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Also, at this time we greet the celebration of the Tenth General Conference of Mayors for Peace, and reaffirm our support for the principles and objectives of this initiative of the Global Network of Mayors for Peace, founded by the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, of which Venezuela participates with 25 member cities.

Finally, I will read the message addressed to this meaningful World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, composed by 120 countries, under the presidency of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. (See page 14.)



Claudio Monzón
Second Secretary
Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan

Unfortunately, the history of humankind has been plagued by wars and genocide, something that progress to this day has not been able to remedy, in spite of the considerable increase in the material welfare and the relative increase of political awareness in some parts of the world. On the contrary, the galloping technological advances experienced after the industrial revolution, has resulted in modern warfare much costlier in human lives and suffering, and demanding of a growing military expenditure that, in the case of many powers, reaches ridiculous figures.

It is unacceptable that today, more is being spent on means to wage war than on the promotion of sustainable development. Global military spending is forecast to reach \$1.67 trillion in 2018, the highest level since the end of Cold War. An amount that could alleviate a global situation where, more than 200 million of people in the planet live in extreme poverty, 1 in 7 people suffer hunger, millions of children die of preventable diseases and many others don't have the opportunity to learn to write and read.

Undoubtedly there must be some who consider that war is an inevitable characteristic of the human race, a legitimate way to solve disputes or maintain a status quo favorable to their interests. Otherwise, it would be impossible to explain such a nonsense. In any case, we pacifists, must not stop denouncing this situation and claiming "progress" as a humanistic concept that implies achieving fairer societies and international relations, not the mere technological development that in the wrong hands can be a threat to everyone.

The most horrible example of this is nuclear armament, an immense sum of resources and human talent destined towards destruction. Nowadays, humankind is threatened by the existence of almost 22 thousand nuclear weapons, more than 5 thousand of them ready to be used immediately.

73 years after the launch of the atomic bombs that sowed destruction and death in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, this is absolutely intolerable, and must make us reflect if we have learnt enough from this tragedy.

The imminent danger that these weapons represent for humankind is evident. The often-repeated deterring function of nuclear bombs, proclaimed by their owners, doesn't guarantee that at a certain point, they won't use them, nor does it exclude the possibility that a human error will trigger an attack or a nuclear disaster.

But even if this never happens, a peace based on

the threat that some may instantly erase millions of people from the face of the earth, whatever the reasons for such action, is not good enough. It is a humiliating situation for human beings, which brings us closer to the condition of beasts than that of a civilized race. But above all, it is an unnecessary situation; we can live in harmony, without the need of having missiles pointing at each other.

On July 7th 2017 an overwhelming majority of the world's nations adopted a Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which constitutes a fundamental step towards nuclear disarmament. It prohibits nations from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, transferring, possessing, stockpiling, using or threatening to use nuclear weapons, or allowing nuclear weapons to be stationed on their territory. It also prohibits them from assisting, encouraging or inducing anyone to engage in any of these activities.

Cuba was among the first 5 nations that ratified the Treaty, demonstrating our commitment towards nuclear disarmament. Cuba joins the call of the international community to the States that have not signed or ratified this Treaty, in particular to the nuclear powers, to do so.

The defense of non-proliferation is not enough. The manipulation of this idea, based on the political interest of a club of privileged nations that continues to improve their nuclear weapons is a double standard that must stop.

The concept of "nuclear deterrence" must be definitely abandoned as the foundation of military doctrines, which, far from contributing to nuclear disarmament, encourage the perpetual possession of these weapons.

Cuba will spare no effort to achieve the prohibition and total elimination of nuclear weapons. This is one of the main legacies of Fidel Castro, the historic leader of the Cuban Revolution, who denounced, in every possible forum, the threat that they posed for the survival of the human species. Maybe the best phrase that synthesizes his ideas about this issue is precisely what he wrote during his visit to the Peace Memorial here in Hiroshima: "May such barbarity never happen again".

We must build another world order, based on human solidarity, justice and prosperity for all, a world where conflicts are solved through dialogue and cooperation.

This should be the firm commitment of all the people who have had the privilege of visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Thank you very much.

Mobilization for Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World: Statements by Overseas Delegates:

Ninon Cazaux French Peace Movement

For a Peaceful and Fair World, Without Nuclear Weapons

First of all, I would like to express the solidarity of the French Peace Movement and all our compassion for the families who were bruised by the terrible floods that particularly affected the province of Hiroshima.

It is with great pleasure that we respond to the call of the organizing Committee of this World Conference against A and H Bombs.

A victory of citizen mobilizations

The adoption by the UN of a treaty to ban nuclear weapons could not have been possible without the tireless testimony of the Hibakushas and the permanence of the mobilizations of the peace movements in Japan. It is also a victory for millions of people and NGOs who, throughout the world, have acted for decades for the definitive elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in connection and convergence with the actions of a number of countries and national and international institutions such as the UN, the International Red Cross, the ILO (International Labor Organization), the ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation).

Global issues

Nuclear weapons are a deadly danger for humanity. The challenge of their eradication is linked to other issues such as war and peace, fair and sustainable development, the fight against global warming and more broadly for a world of justice, fraternity and equality (especially between women and men), so with the general struggle for human rights.

Humanity has never had as today the capacity and the means to face these challenges and to create the conditions so that every human being can live in peace and security.

The logic of power, domination and monopolizing typical to present globalized economies is a major obstacle to build a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons. It also comes with a questioning of the United Nations Charter and multilateralism for the benefit of NATO or supranational organizations such as the G8 or G20.

Thus this logic has favored the development of the military-political-industrial complex which is the main adversary in this phase of the struggle

towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

The military-industrial complex, which is mainly responsible for increasing military expenditure, also dominates and controls the media power. In France, for example, the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was totally ignored by the media or was fought by so-called experts.

Balance of power

The success of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons should not be underestimated, nor overestimated, and we should neither underestimate the determination of our opponents to delay the elimination of nuclear weapons. What is really positive is that the balance of power has evolved in favor of the elimination of nuclear weapons.

In France, the majority and the current government (Macron) is in favor of nuclear deterrence, the militarization of international relations, military interventions abroad and alignment with NATO policies.

Regarding the doctrine of nuclear deterrence, more and more voices raise in France to question it, including those of former ministers of defense.

For the French Peace Movement this doctrine inevitably leads to proliferation.

Proof of this is the possession of the nuclear weapon by North Korea.

Campaign

The French Peace Movement has launched a campaign for France to commit, sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

We pledge before you to do everything so that the France holder of the nuclear weapon and permanent member of the Security Council of the United Nations signs the Treaty of prohibition of the Nuclear Weapon.

Karlene Griffiths Sekou Black Lives Matter Boston/ Dignity Project International U.S.A.

Greetings. I am grateful for the opportunity to be here with you. My deepest gratitude and Thanks to Shinfujin and dear sister Emiko Hirano for her exquisite care for me and my son Lion, and for their support.

It is my honor to bring you greetings from all my comrades in the Movement for Black Lives and the Global Black Lives Matter Network. As I stand before you today, there remains a critical, ongoing struggle for people of African descent within the

United States and around the world against the forces of anti-blackness, genocide, and dehumanization through racism. Racism proliferates as part of the fabric of the United States government and of its society. There is a human caste system, one that creates a hierarchy of humanity within the United States that continues to discriminate against and oppress Black people.

The Black Lives Matter Movement is the continuation of the Civil Rights Movement for liberation, freedom, and equity in the United States. Our modern resistance fights to stop the state sanctioned killings of black people by local police; to stop the mass imprisonment black people, and to garner the human rights and dignity for living through alleviation of poverty, access to quality education, housing, and economic opportunities.

Black Lives Matter Movement was founded by three women who saw the need to reject human hierarchy established within the United States. Our Movement asserts that ALL Black people –women, queer, LGBTQ, those who are disabled, and the poor and vulnerable deserve equal rights and justice. The everyday racism, racist policies, attitudes, and culture in the United States and around the globe excludes and discriminates against Black people making our communities vulnerable and subject to arbitrary state sanctioned violence. That is why our movement stand in solidarity with other peoples around the globe who fight for human rights. We are an intersectional movement and we stand in solidarity with the Indigenous American peoples whose land the United States government has stolen and against whom there has been a policy of genocide. We stand in solidarity with immigrants who are being targeted, persecuted, and deported. Whose children are being caged and sold into human trafficking. We stand in solidarity and struggle alongside the Palestinian people for a free and liberated Palestine, and for its indigenous Palestinian people to be able to return to their lands.

The Black Lives Matter Global Network recognizes the interlocking global mechanisms the fuel dehumanization and war. From capitalism, Western cultural hegemony (domination) to militarization and the multi-trillion dollars war machines. Humanity and our environment should never again suffer the terror of nuclear war. We must dislodge the philosophies and the mechanisms that uses the threat of annihilation and of war to solve conflicts. Money and resources funneled to sustain and proliferate nuclear war, the militarization of the police who occupy and terrorize Black communities in the United States should be redirected to provide social and material support for the lives of the most vulnerable. These resources are needed in housing, education, social and environmental programs long

withheld from Black, poor, and vulnerable. We fight to promote the flourishing and human rights of all black lives because black folks have always suffered racism, discrimination, and exclusion from flourishing in the United States despite the fact that it was forced Black Labor that built the wealth of the United States and from which European descendants benefit to this day. We fight alongside other communities against the proliferation of the atomic and hydrogen bombs, nuclear proliferation and call for nuclear disarmament and abolition. Where there is a threat to one there is a threat to all.

Donald Mellman
International Physicians for the
Prevention of Nuclear War/ Oleander
Initiative of the University of the Middle
East Project, U.S.A.

I am honored to be here today as a representative of two separate organizations, each with an important role to play as we strive to make the world free of nuclear arms.

However, first I want to say, how personally satisfying it is to be in Japan. In today's world with its uncertainty and concern for the political leadership, Japan is vital to North Asian economic security.

I bring you greetings from the Secretariat of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. IPPNW is a non-partisan, global federation of independent chapters from sixty-two countries.

IPPNW was started by a group of Harvard-based physicians and prominent Soviet Union physicians in 1982, all concerned about the humanitarian consequences that would result from the use of nuclear weapons.

IPPNW was awarded the UNESCO Peace Education Prize in 1984 and has been the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize twice: first, in 1985 as an independent organization and again last year, as part of ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, a coalition of non-governmental organizations in one hundred countries promoting adherence to and implementation of the United Nations Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, adopted in New York in July 2017.

Physicians treated, and continue to treat, the victims of the 1945 nuclear catastrophe and spread the lesson that we must not let these horrific weapons be used again. Physicians are now educating the public on the less well-known catastrophic consequences of nuclear war beyond the horror of death and destruction caused by nuclear blast, firestorms, and intense radiation. It

is now known that even a limited nuclear exchange, such as between India and Pakistan, would cause enough of a dust cloud worldwide to harm crops throughout the globe for twenty years, leading to widespread famine and severe loss of life – threatening two billion people with death. A full-scale nuclear war would increase the size of the dust clouds to cause global climate cooling such that human life and that of many other species would be threatened with extinction.

The second organization which I am honored to represent is the University of the Middle East, an NPO, founded in 1997, based in Boston, Massachusetts in the US. UME is focused on the training of educators from the Middle East and North Africa region, as well as the United States, in the vital peacebuilding skills of conflict management and mediation. Its annual Oleander Initiative, named for the first flowers that bloomed in the irradiated areas, is represented here today. Education will influence the next generation, and meaningful change will be made through politically intelligent methods.

In conclusion, our fight to rid the world of nuclear weapons must be politically smart. IPPNW and UME are here to help us be politically intelligent as we move forward in our noble intent.

Choi Eun-Soon
Korean Women's Associations United
(KWAU), R.O.K.

For a nuclear weapon-free world and
sustainable peace

It is my great pleasure to meet you today. AI am Choi Eun-soon, co-representative of the Korean Women's Association United (KWAU). First I would like to bring you my solidarity greetings.

The KWAU was established in 1987 as a coalition of progressive women's organizations working for realizing gender equality, democracy, well-being, and peaceful and united society with sustainability. Since its founding, the KWAU has been working mainly on peace and unification.

In 2017 and 2018, changes took place in South Korean society. The present government born after the Candlelight Revolution is promoting further progress in South-North relations with a view to establishing a system of peace for the Korean Peninsula. The #Me Too movement calls for a big structural change in society that has caused violence and discrimination. Positive and more sustainable peace and peace without nuclear weapons and war is the primary concern of the Korean society at present.

The colonial legacy, division, military confrontation, and the threat of war had a negative impact on people's lives. The prevalence of militarism and a solidly established system of patriarchy afflicted the lives of Korean women. The issue of the comfort women, who were forced to provide sexual service to Japanese army soldiers, the problem of women in US military camp towns, discrimination, violence, hatred, and exclusion of women in South Korean society have been laid bare in the course of the development of the #Me Too Movement. All this explains why Korean women are at the forefront of the movement to build peace and achieve social transformation.

Korean Peninsula situation is changing drastically. South Korea's women and civic organizations support the April 27 Panmunjom Declaration and are working together to have this agreement fully implemented. They wish for the full implementation of the agreement to hold meetings with a view to declaring an end to the war, turning the armistice to a peace treaty, and establishing a permanent and solid regime of peace" by the end of the year. These women's organizations also work together to gain support and cooperation from the international community.

Japan's Abe government, arguing the importance of the US nuclear umbrella under the pretext of the threat of North Korea, refuses to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and even seeks to abandon the peace Constitution by adversely amending Article 9 in order to push ahead with Japan's rearmament. However, the Japanese anti-nuclear peace movement has been firm against this move. The Korean women would like to share the cause of the movement with you.

Seventy thousand out of 210,000 hibakusha are Koreans. There also remain various other problems related to wartime military comfort women and Japan's occupation and imperialism. For Japan to be recognized as a responsible member of the international community, it should take a hard look at the history of its colonial rule.

The denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and peace certainly needs cooperation and support from the international community. Citizens' global solidarity is also very important. I hope that the movement for peace will greatly advance in Japan and the rest of East Asia toward a world without nuclear weapons through building peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The KWAU from a gender perspective hopes to increase solidarity with people around the world. I believe that your passion and dedication will certainly contribute to achieving a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

No Women, No Peace!

Statements by Japanese Delegates:

Representatives of Hibakusha Organizations in Hiroshima:

Sakuma Kunihiko President, Hiroshima Federation of A-Bomb Survivors (Hiroshima Hidankyo)

*(*This text was written by Mr. Yoshioka Yukio, Secretary General of Liaison Conference of Hiroshima Prefectural A-Bomb Sufferers' Organizations and read by Mr. Sakuma on his behalf)*

In 2017, A-bomb sufferers here in Japan and abroad initiated the International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha.

This campaign denounces the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons and calls on all states to conclude a treaty to prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons. This is an earnest appeal from all A-bomb sufferers such as the nine initial proponents of this signature campaign.

Toward the end of the war, Japanese military closed schools and forcefully mobilized even middle school students and girl students for the war. In Hiroshima, most of them were mobilized to engage in the house demolition and other work near the hypocenter of the atomic bombing.

Our class, the second year of middle school, was given an order to work on August 5 and 6. Deciding by scissors-paper-stone, my group won and chose August 5. On August 6, I was at a point 1.7 kilometers from the hypocenter, but narrowly escaped death.

However, the classmates in the other group were all killed because they were working near the hypocenter on that day.

The International Signature Campaign will help ease the chagrin of my classmates who had their future cut off at the age 16 as well as of those countless A-bomb victims.

Last year, the United Nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

This was one of the fruits borne by the efforts of many people, including hibakushas, the governments, and civil societies that have long been working for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

So far, there are campaigns going on for the entry into force of the treaty with 14 countries having already ratified it. Let us pave the way towards the elimination of nuclear weapons by winning the ratification by 50 countries, required for the treaty to come into force.

Friends, the government of Japan, the only country that was A-bombed, was absent in the negotiating sessions. On the vacant seat for the

Japanese government in the UN, a paper crane was placed. The Japanese government turned its back on a large majority of the people and stood against the treaty together with the nuclear weapon states.

At the meeting with Prime Minister to be held the day after tomorrow where Hibakusha Representatives will present their demands, I am going to urge Prime Minister Abe to sign and ratify the Treaty on TPNW as the unanimous demand of all the organizations of A-bomb sufferers in Hiroshima.

I will insist that the government's attitude to continuously oppose the treaty violates the oath inscribed in the memorial stone in the Peace Park: "Rest in peace. The mistake will not be repeated".

We must change the attitude of the government, and if not, we will bring down this government.

The International Signature Campaign will greatly contribute to pressing the governments in Japan and in the world to sign and ratify the treaty. The international signature campaign for the Stockholm Appeal that stopped the use of nuclear weapons and the petition for the prohibition of A & H Bombs, which started following the disaster caused by the hydrogen bomb test near Bikini Atoll had led to the birth of the Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo). The signature campaign for the "Appeal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki" launched in 1985 and other signature campaigns built up a great pressure on the nuclear weapon states, leading to their pledge made at the NPT review conference to abolish nuclear weapons.

The current signature campaign will be very significant to get the entry into force of the TPNW and open the way to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

In concluding, I reassure you that we will work with you to spread this signature campaign all over the world.

Kim Ginho
Director, Hiroshima Prefectural Council
of Korean Hibakusha

Hello, everyone. Thank you for your work. I am Kim Ginho, a member of the Hiroshima Prefectural Council of Korean Hibakusha. We have especially hot summer in Hiroshima this year. The Hiroshima Carps, the local baseball team, with its successive victories makes this summer even hotter. Much more excited and enthusiastic are Hibakushas, and seven organizations of Hibakushas demanding the elimination of nuclear weapons.

As you already know, the ROK-DPRK Summit and US-DPRK Summit took place this year. These historic meetings will develop the move toward the establishment of a peaceful, prosperous, united

Korean peninsula, and at the same time, the denuclearization there. I expect this move will lead to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the whole world as early as possible. For this reason, I want as many people as possible to participate in the International Signature Campaign we are now leading; we will also promote this movement with the strongest commitment.

Kwon Joonoh
Vice-President, Special Task Force for
South Korean A-bomb Casualties

Yorobun Annyeong Hashimnikka. (Hello, everyone.)

Allow me to extend solidarity greetings on behalf of the organization of South Korean A-bomb Casualties located in Hiroshima.

Mr. Sakuma and Mr. Kim Ginho talked about a lot of things. I will limit my speech to a short story that I know. A few years ago, US President Obama visited Hiroshima and he referred to the number of A-bomb sufferers from the Korean Peninsula like "a thousand" or "a few thousands", whereas we estimate the number at between 25,000 and 30,000. However, both the governments of Japan and the United States tend to understate the number of Korean victims.

I would be happy if you could tell me the accurate figure here, but the Hibakusha are Hibakusha wherever they are from. I want you to know that there were many non-Japanese A-bomb victims at that time among what you refer as A-bomb victims. I will work hard hand in hand with you to have these cruel nuclear weapons abolished as early as possible by carrying out the International Signature Campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha.

Yasumoto Mariko
Ibaraki JA Hospital Workers' Union/
Japan Federation of Medical Workers'
Unions (Nihon-Iroren)

We represent IBAKORO, the Ibaraki Japan Agricultural Cooperative's Hospital Workers' Union. From Ibaraki, 13 members are participating in the Conference with 50 colleagues from across Japan.

Unionization rate in Japan is low, only standing at 17%. This is because of the policy of the government and the capital to divide and isolate workers through different forms of employment. One-fifth of workers are non-regular employees, which makes it hard for workers to get connected and help each other. Unfortunately, our health sector

is not an exception. Many workplaces are suffering from understaffing: We usually work more than 8 hours a day; Unpaid overtime is common in many hospitals; overtime after 16-hour-night-shift is not unusual. We are working to save lives of patients, but our workload is just so excessive that we are risking our own lives. I have witnessed that many nurses quitted as soon as the hospital employed new nurses.

Labor relations are not only the cause of this serious situation. Income of hospitals is greatly affected by the medical and technical service fees set by the government that is subject to review and change every 2 years. Thus, the government medical policy has great influence on working conditions at hospitals and clinics. As seen in his call for the revision of the Constitution, the Abe government has increased military spending while drastically cutting the social security budget. We have great concern that the right to life, guaranteed in Article 25 of the Constitution, and 3 basic labor rights (rights to organize, to bargain collectively and to strike) in Article 28 may be jeopardized. Out of this sense of crisis, our union came round to the idea that our struggle must not be limited to the improvement of working conditions; the activity of only sending our representatives to the Bikini Day rally and the World Conference against A and H Bombs was not enough. We formed a peace committee within the union in 2014 and have carried on peace activities, connecting them with union tasks.

I am sorry to say that some union members hesitate to join in such activities on the Constitution and peace tasks, saying that they are “political” matters. However, no one can live without being affected by politics. Thanks to the Peace Constitution, we can carry out union movement and raise our voices for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

I don't like them to dodge their apathy and irresponsibility, saying that these problems are political. Instead, I want them to join in the Peace March and walk even one step together! Some members of our union, who joined the march, felt encouraged by other peace marchers and experienced peace activists, and realized what they could do for peace. They are now more positively engaged in peace activities.

We set one condition on our union members' participation in the World Conference: No one can be a part of our delegation to the Conference without joining the peace march with local activists. This serves a good opportunity for them to experience the march. One of them got addicted to the march; he joined it for 6 days out of the 13-day march in the prefecture by using paid leaves or even joining after night shift of work.

And our members of 6 KOSEIREN hospitals, who could not join the conference, folded 4,000 paper cranes and asked the delegation to bring them to Hiroshima with their wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons. These are message boards they made with the paper cranes. Both to protect community medical service and to defend peace have a common principle “to protect lives”. Our national federation, Japan Federation of Medical Workers' Unions, has been upholding the slogan, “Never smirch our white coats with blood of battlefields”. Under this slogan, we will continue to fight to defend the Peace Constitution and achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons by empowering ourselves through constant learning activities. Let us keep working together for peace!

Morita Kaoru
Urawa Branch, New Japan Women's
Association (Shinfujin)

The New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin) upholds peace and the elimination of nuclear weapons as the organization's founding objectives, and has been working at the grassroots level. Opposing to the constitutional revision and calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons, Shinfujin has focused on the two peace petition campaigns: the Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign, and the 30-Million Signature Campaign to Say “No!” to Abe's Revision of Article 9.

I belong to Shinfujin Urawa Branch in Saitama Prefecture. Our branch has 22 “Hans” (Han means “group” in Japanese and it is a basic organizational unit of Shinfujin). All these Hans participate in the signature drive on the 6th and/or the 9th of every month. We have organized gatherings with the Hibakusha and those who experienced the war to hear their stories. Deeply moved and motivated by their stories, “Han” members started to act on their own initiatives for collecting signatures in support of the “Hibakusha Appeal” by putting signatures forms into mailboxes of apartments and making door-to-door visits later on, or by organizing signature collecting in public spaces such as in front of supermarkets and high schools. People came to sign saying, for example, that they were ashamed of the Japanese government because it opposed the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I am convinced that having dialogues with each of those who stop to listen to us is a step forward to achieve a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

Urawa Branch also works to make the A-bomb damage known to as many people as possible, and organizes every summer A-bomb photo exhibitions

with the support of Saitama City (prefectural capital) in public facilities in every ward. This year, too, hundreds of people came to the exhibitions. We can put signature forms in the exhibition sites and people would sign after seeing the photos.

Urawa Branch members have reached 52% of the target number for the Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign, and 81% for the 30-Million Signature Campaign to Say “No!” to Abe’s Revision of Article 9.

In Saitama Prefecture, since the Security Bills were submitted to the Diet, different women’s groups and individuals rallied together on agreed point of opposing to the security legislation, and have organized seminars and parades. Seven thousand women attired in red crowded in front of the prefectural office to express their anger. This was overwhelming. An unprecedented cooperation is developing among women of different ages, from young mothers to the elderly, as well as among political parties and organizations. The Women Civil Alliance for Peace and Democracy was set up, too, for strengthening wider cooperation for the upcoming House of Councilors election.

It is my mother who inspired me to work for peace. She passed away more than 10 years ago, but I remember visiting Hiroshima with my family as an elementary school student and learned about peace. She also told me about her war experience and read many peace books. I am truly grateful to my mother for teaching me the importance of peace.

These hats we are wearing were made by young members of Omiya Branch to express their wish for peace. And we brought these thousands of cranes folded by our dear colleague of Urawa Branch, Ms. Murayama Hatsue, who passed away last month after devoting herself to peace activities for years. She and all our branch members, including those who could not make to Hiroshima, are with us today in this World Conference.

Now is the time for us to receive the baton from our predecessors to carry on the movement to free our world of nuclear weapons.

Solidarity with the All-Okinawa Struggles:

Yamamoto Takashi
All Okinawa Coalition Against New Construction of Henoko Base
(Please see page 45.)

60th Anniversary Nationwide Peace March and the International Youth Relay March:

Maekawa Shiro (Moderator): National Peace March celebrates its 60th anniversary this year. Now I would like to introduce to you 9 through marchers of the march from north to south.

Mr. Yamauchi Kanehisa (Hokkaido - Tokyo/the Pacific course): Playing cheerful music with his trumpet, Mr. Yamauchi led the march from Rebun-Island of Hokkaido and walked through the affected areas of the Great East Japan earthquake and TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Disaster calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons and nuclear power.

Mr. Yamaguchi Itsuro (Hokkaido-Tokyo/ the Sea of Japan side course) is 86 years old and walked all the way from Hokkaido to Tokyo. When the march arrived at Kamo City Office, Niigata Prefecture, the Mayor walked together by holding the banner of the march from his office on the second floor to the city assembly chairperson’s office on the third floor. In Nagano Prefecture, he walked in the precinct of the Zenkoji Temple together with the peace march organizing committee members of Gensuikin (Japan Congress Against A & H Bombs).

Mr. Suhara Hideo (Hokkaido-Tokyo/Inland course) started to walk from Abashiri, Hokkaido, calling lively for participation in the World Conference against A & H Bombs with a rhythmical beat of the Uchiwa-daiko (round fan drum) all the way to Tokyo. During the march, he felt the warm support from local municipalities and also learned a great deal of efforts of local grassroots communities for the success of this march and he wants to go on marching!

Because of the heavy rain disasters in the southwest parts of Japan, we had to shorten the courses toward Hiroshima from Toyama, Tokyo, Shikoku, Okinawa, Miyazaki and Nagasaki. However, despite all these difficulties, marchers continued walking, calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the entry into force of the Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty. Today, they finally arrived at Hiroshima Peace Park!

Ms. Minami Yukako (Tokyo-Hiroshima course) carried over the wishes for peace of the marchers from Tokyo, Wakayama and Shikoku. Yukako walked all the way to Hiroshima. On the way, she also prayed for peace and wellbeing of the people in Kansai and Chugoku areas stricken by earthquake and torrential rains.

After walking around Shikoku, **Mr. Igarashi Shigeomi (Shikoku-Hiroshima course)** joined Tokyo-Hiroshima course and marched in Kansai

and Chugoku areas toward Hiroshima. He wish to continue walking until all nuclear weapons are abolished on earth.

Ms. Yoneyama Sachiko (Tokyo-Hiroshima course) posted her blog every day to inform people of what she felt during the march. In her blog, she shared a story about a 90-year-old woman who had offered paper cranes to the Peace March for 16 years and this year Sachiko received her last cranes which made her realize the gravity of responsibility as a peace marcher.

Mr. Nishida Shigeyoshi (Miyazaki-Hiroshima course) was born and raised in Omi, near Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan. He always cheered up the march with his sense of humor and also sang “Heiwa-no-Koyomi”, a song of Toru Kasagi three times a day!

Ms. Shimada Noriko (Nagasaki-Hiroshima course) led the march from Nagasaki, the last victim city, to Hiroshima, the first A-bombed city. Although the Japanese government is refusing to sign the Ban Treaty, she learned through the march that a lot of municipalities share the same goal with us for a world without nuclear weapons and she was encouraged by grassroots efforts in each place.

Mr. Takeda Akihiko (Okinawa-Hiroshima course) walked to Hiroshima wearing the International Youth Relay sashes with dates and courses were written on the other side. These sashes were handed from people from all ages from a 4-year-old girl to a member of the pensioners’ union. He wishes to display these sashes in the Peace

March Museum someday. Today, some young marchers from Okinawa who walked with him are also on this stage.

Maekawa: In the International Youth Relay March, we had the participation of the following members: **Ms. Patricia Angeles (Peace Women Partners), Mr. Guerrero AG Saño (Teach Peace, Build Peace/Art Mission for Peace), Mr. Sarifoddin Bin Hashim and Ms. Laida Musa (Midanao People’s Peace Movement) from the Philippines; Ms. Shinjo Saho (Hiroshima Gensuikyo) of Japan; Ms. Paloma Labbe (French Peace Movement) of France; Ms. Yei Hsuan Huang (Lan An Cultural and Educational Foundation, Lanyu) from Taiwan; Mr. Lee Jae Young (Civil Network for Justice in Sports) from ROK; Ms. Siobhon McManus (Guahan Coalition for Peace and Justice) from Guam; and Ms. Emilie Clark and Ms. Emily Rubino (Peace Action New York) from USA.**

Representing these International Youth Relay Marchers, we ask Guerrero AG Saño to say a few words.

AG Saño: Hello everyone! I am AG Saño from the Philippines. I wholeheartedly call for your participation in the Peace March, especially young people of Japan. Let’s walk together and move forward towards our goal! Thank you very much.

Maekawa: Yes, we hope that we will see more young marchers joining the March next year. Let’s walk together even if it’s just for a few steps. Thank you very much!



**International Forum:
“For the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons -
Dialogue between Governments & NGOs”
(August 5)**



Panelist Presentations:

Thomas Hajnoczi
Director for Disarmament, Arms Control
and Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry
for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs
Austria

(Transcribed from oral presentation)

It's a particular pleasure and honor for me to be here with you today and to be in Hiroshima, because when you go to the peace memorial park you certainly see in very concrete terms what nuclear weapons would mean. I think in a very well done you see that it's the fate of the individuals. It really touches people. It's not so much abstract numbers that are mind boggling. It's the fate of the suffering that nuclear weapons bring to fellow citizens of the world. Therefore, it is crucial that the issue of nuclear disarmament is not something that is the prerogative of generals and diplomats. It has to be in the hands of ordinary people like us here today. So we all have influence on this. We have to make sure that our voice is heard.

When I walked through the park yesterday, I saw the flame burning. And I was told that the flame will cease to burn once we have reached the total elimination of nuclear weapons. So it's certainly our common objective, and interesting enough, all states, including the nuclear weapon states, that have committed themselves to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. They have done so in different documents, but most importantly perhaps, already 50 years ago, in the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Because this treaty, which is the bedrock of nuclear disarmament, contains the famous Article 6 which says, "Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament." And when you negotiate in good faith, you might take some years. This year we are celebrating 50 years of this treaty and most people think that when you negotiate in good faith you should reach the result in a number of years and certainly in 50 years.

So, we will hear more perhaps later from the Irish colleague on the nonproliferation treaty because in fact it was Ireland that proposed 60 years ago to have such a treaty which also contains one of

the three pillars, nuclear disarmament, because you cannot have nonproliferation without disarmament. It's a deal that those countries that do not have nuclear weapons yet will never develop them, against the promise of the countries that have nuclear weapons that they will disarm them. So that is the basis of the relationship and I think we understand this quite well, because what is the credibility when nuclear weapon states tells you, "You should not develop nuclear weapons, but I need them for my security"? It's not very convincing. So the patience of non-nuclear weapon states of course is running a little bit out over the last years. First we have seen quite good progress on nuclear disarmament, reductions and so on, but now over the last one or two decades it's not happening any more with the promising speed.

So it was very much in the minds of NGOs and non-nuclear weapon states, what could we do? Certainly we cannot take away the nuclear weapons of those who have them, but what we can do is to make the foundation for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, which must be a legally-binding norm to prohibit nuclear weapons.

And that actually happened as you all know when we, on the 7th of July last year, adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and actually, the full title is "Towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons", so it is already in this treaty. This is just of course the legal foundation, and much more has to happen. And you know that overwhelming majority of states has adopted this treaty, which, I think is very obvious because the overwhelming majority of states has come to the conclusion that for their security, it is much better not to have nuclear weapons, and they do not want to see them also in the hands of others.

You know that we have developed a number of nuclear weapon-free zones, something that 127 countries are members of those zones, and other countries like mine, Austria, we have it in our constitution that nuclear weapons are forbidden, everything to do with nuclear weapons is forbidden - transfer and assistance to develop them and so on. So actually you all should bear in mind that the majority of states is against nuclear weapons because they feel it's not good for their security. Of course we know that still quite a number of states think that it is good for their security, and I think that's the real conversation that we have to have. But in view of my country and myself, nuclear weapons cannot provide security, because they are a danger in themselves, and we know today much more than we did decades ago about the effects of nuclear weapons, the humanitarian effect, I do not have to stress this with you here in Hiroshima that is very obvious. But I mean, research have shown

us that they have an impact on faraway countries and continents and there's this famous study which more or less calculated how many millions of people are dying due to the effects of nuclear winter in faraway countries in a region if there is a nuclear confrontation, not to speak of the most recent study that tells us that the exchange of a hundred nuclear weapons might already be sufficient to wipe out mankind. So it's very much about all of us and our survival.

Today we already know more about these accidents that have happened that could have led to an unintentional nuclear weapon explosion, that's the very real danger. The United States is very transparent on those things and they have published 32 major accidents that they have had. We know that in Russia they were very close to the brink of the full exchange of nuclear weapons if not for the officer who died this year, Mr. Stanislav Petrov who would not have followed his instructions when he saw on the computer that the missiles that should be nuclear missiles, came in from the west. And he checked and checked and decided it must be a mistake, but he didn't know whether it was a technical mistake, and finally of course, it happened enough. He was right because according to this concept of "an attack on alert", you would have to launch your nuclear weapons to prevent that your own will be destroyed. This is a very dangerous concept.

My minister recently spoke at the Conference on Disarmament and she added a little bit to the speech. I'll refer to her, to what she added: "When I was about thirteen, I realized that this concept of mutually assured destruction is really something that is outrageous, and understood then how important nuclear disarmament is."

So in our view, nuclear weapons cannot provide security. They just bring risk, and this risk have increased today. We know with computer hacking, what can happen if someone is able to hack himself inside command and control system of nuclear weapons? We know that some terrorists have already tried to get hold of nuclear material. So there are many dangers, certainly.

So where do we stand now one year after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons? We have all together followed the news. Actually we have witnessed threats by some nuclear-armed states that they might use nuclear weapons. We all know that practically all nuclear-armed states and their programs are underway to modernize their nuclear weapons. So instead of stopping to add new nuclear weapons, new types are being tested, developed, and certainly this goes totally to the wrong direction.

On the Treaty, it looks much better, because we

have 59 signatures and 14 ratifications. And actually this is a very fast pace if you compare it to previous to the last treaties dealing with nuclear disarmament. When we go back 50 years ago, we're much quicker. And again it's a good cooperation between civil society, and I want to stress in particular ICAN that has received much to our joy the Nobel Peace Prize last year. And in many states processes are underway leading to the ratification. And we have to be fair. To ratify is not just a political statement. To ratify means that you have to adopt national legislations. You have many countries to amend their penal codes because certain activities could be under penal law. So it's not something that you can just do within a couple of weeks, and we understand that this process takes some time. But we are in a very good course. There is no doubt whatsoever that it will reach 50 necessary ratifications for entry into force of the treaty. When you see how much coverage the treaty is getting from all sides, also from those who are not in favor, and you see the relevance -- that this is a major undertaking.

It is really the time to look at the treaty because all the other weapons of mass destruction have been prohibited a long time ago -- chemical weapons, biological weapons. And for me it was always very strange that the most dreadful weapon of mass destruction is not prohibited. It's always the basis that you have a prohibition and usually only then, the destruction and so on will come. So we know it will take quite some time because the nuclear weapon states have not come to the conclusion yet that it will be better for their security not to have nuclear weapons. But I think we are making progress, and with assistance together we hopefully will reach our common aim, the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and I hope to see the day when the flame here in Hiroshima will not be burning.

Jamie Walsh
**Deputy Director, Disarmament and Non-
Proliferation, Department of Foreign
Affairs & Trade**
Ireland

(Transcribed from oral presentation)

It's always very difficult to follow Thomas's remarks because he lays everything out so simply, and especially when the microphone is not by my mouth, it makes it very difficult.

But what I hope to bring to this conversation is perhaps not so much my experience as a diplomat but more of my experience as a historian. And I've been working in disarmament for about 12 years, first as a diplomat, and then as a lecturer at a

university in Ireland, and now again as a diplomat. And I think actually the experience that I've had as a historian is of huge benefit in trying to understand what's happening at the moment, because this is the first disarmament treaty that has been negotiated in 20 years since the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. So it's very easy to lose perspective I think, on how disarmament treaties are negotiated, how they enter into force, and what the initial reaction is like. That tends to get lost with time.

So I'm going to take us back a little bit first to the negotiation of the NPT. As Thomas mentioned, the NPT celebrates its 50th anniversary since it was open for signature in 1968. But in fact it's 60 years since the Irish Foreign Minister Frank Aiken first introduced a resolution at the UN General Assembly which proposed what he then called the non-dissemination treaty for nuclear weapons. Why did he do that? He did that mainly because at the time, nuclear weapons were seen as the arena of great powers. Ireland is a small island nation. It had recently become a republic, celebrated as an independent nation for just over thirty years, when it joined the UN in 1955. And this was one of the most pressing issues formed at the time. Because there was a realization which was shared by the majority of states that nuclear weapons are not the arena of great powers. That they in fact are universal. They affect the world. So by introducing the idea of a non-dissemination treaty, or a non-proliferation treaty, Ireland wanted to engage the international community in that debate.

Now I say I bring us back to help us remember what it's like, because the initial reaction to the TPNW was one of very forceful rejection by the nuclear weapon states. But in 1958, that was precisely the same reaction to Frank Aiken's idea of a nonproliferation treaty. In fact, the resolution in the end wasn't even tabled because of the resistance mainly from NATO states that said they would vote against the resolution. But before withdrawing the resolution, the Irish government called for a vote on the preambular paragraph which stated that nonproliferation is the cause of the world, that there is an inherent danger in the proliferation of nuclear weapons. And that was adopted. The following year, in 1959, another resolution was introduced, and in 1960, another resolution was introduced. And gradually, by 1961, a unanimous resolution was introduced which formed the basis of what became the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1968. But even then, even in 1968, you have to remember, as Thomas again pointed out, that this wasn't an immediate success story. There were 5 recognized nuclear weapon states, but only 3 of them immediately signed and ratified the treaty. In fact it took almost another 25 years before the other 2

nuclear weapon states eventually came on board. So you have to acknowledge, I think, the process that takes place in the negotiation of nuclear disarmament treaties are not be disheartened, certainly by the type of rhetoric that is being espoused by the nuclear weapon states in relation to the TPNW.

I think the main thing to take away from it is that the debate itself does not belong to the great powers that we have to grasp it, regardless of the size of the country. We have to grasp it, and realize that this is a multilateral, international issue.

It's of course natural as well to be cautious. It is a major shift in terms of what this treaty proposes. It proposes the elimination of nuclear weapons. But it's also important to remember where this treaty I think fits into the disarmament and nonproliferation regime itself. This isn't, as some opponents of the treaty have suggested, in any way contradictory to the NPT. It is in fact fully complementary to the NPT. It puts flesh as it were, on the bones of what was in 1968 a very bare treaty. The NPT text itself is quite slim and over the course of its history, it's been fleshed out on numerous occasions in terms of its nonproliferation aspects, and certainly it's a useful aspect as well. There are numerous regimes for example associated with the nonproliferation side of the treaty. We have the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism. There is an alphabet soup of disarmament and nonproliferation acronyms which take almost 10 years to learn. And I think it's important to recognize that the element that was neglected the most over the course of the NPT's history has been the disarmament. And what the TPNW does is that it puts flesh on the bones of the disarmament Article 6 of the NPT.

And again I say the resistance to this is not new. Whenever there is a bold or radical idea introduced -- the NPT itself was a radical idea -- there is always resistance. And even in the course of the NPT's history, any attempt to push forward the disarmament elements faced resistance. My particular area of study was the multilateral disarmament negotiation in the 1990s. The heart of this was of course the formation of the New Agenda Coalition in 1998. This was seen as a hugely radical movement at the time, and utterly rejected by the nuclear weapon states -- utterly rejected by NATO. Yes, within two years, the New Agenda Coalition was operating - and operating smoothly - within the framework of the NPT itself, and eventually became what was effectively the negotiating side of the non-nuclear weapon states that eventually agreed on the celebrated 13 practical steps on an unequivocal undertaking for nuclear disarmament.

But again that's 18 years ago, so it's quite difficult to recall the type of arguments that were made then. I've seen the speaking notes from the United States, France, UK and they are almost identical in 1998 against the New Agenda Coalition to what they are now to the TPNW. So it's important to remember that we can move past level of resistance. And as the support for the treaty grows, and it is growing, I think we will also see a normalization and acceptance that the TPNW itself is a reality, it is now a part of the multilateral nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation regime and it will eventually enter into force certainly within, we hope, the next two years.

Finally, I'd just like to say that the TPNW also introduces a new direction for nuclear disarmament. And it's an exciting direction. As Thomas mentioned, the security debate quite regularly and certainly that is the case, has been the case, again if we look from a historical perspective, the nuclear weapon debate has almost entirely been a debate about security. But that is not the only area that nuclear weapons affect. We need to open up that debate beyond security. And that's what Ireland and its partners in the international community have been trying to do in recent years to show that nuclear weapons, in fact, have a huge impact in terms of their impact on the environment. There are elements of gender debate that should be included in the nuclear weapons debate. The effect of ionizing radiation on women and girls is far, far more dreadful than it is on men, and the impact of nuclear weapons on cultural heritage, of course is immense. And someone recently remarked to me about the celebrated sustainable development goals that the detonation of a single nuclear weapon would in fact obliterate all of our sustainable development goals. So it's something to keep in mind as we move forward towards ratification. Something to keep in mind as we continue to fight for the total abolition of nuclear weapons.

So I hope that brief historical context adds to the debate, because I'm certainly conscious that there is very little I can tell you activists in this room that they don't know already. In fact, the most enriching experience for me has been to come here and learn from you, so I look forward to that in our discussion later.

Alicia Sanders-Zakre
Arms Control Association/ Campaign for
Peace, Disarmament and Common
Security
U.S.A.

First of all, I would just like to say what an honor it is to be here in Japan surrounded by so many dedicated nuclear abolition activists. I first heard the stories of the hibakusha as a college student in Boston. And I had the honor of hearing their testimonies again this morning. It is their heartbreaking experience of atomic warfare and tireless activism that inspires me to join their call to “never again” witness such a horrific event and to work for nuclear abolition.

In my remarks today I will discuss the state of the nuclear disarmament movement in the United States and U.S. nuclear policy today.

It is with a heavy heart that I say that the global nuclear disarmament enterprise is in a state of crisis. And the nuclear disarmament movement in the United States faces its own considerable challenges. Nearly 50 years after the adoption of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the five states that signed as nuclear weapons states have failed to give up their weapons. Dramatic nuclear reductions have brought global nuclear weapons arsenals down from their Cold War peak. But, 15,000 nuclear weapons remain today, enough to destroy the world many times over.

The United States is embarking on a 30-year plan to rebuild its entire nuclear arsenal that will cost upwards of \$1.7 trillion dollars when adjusted for inflation. The Trump administration’s 2018 Nuclear Posture Review is a step in the wrong direction. It calls for building “more usable” new types of nuclear weapons, including a low-yield submarine-launched ballistic missile and a low-yield submarine-launched cruise missile. What’s almost worse is what the U.S. nuclear policy leaves out. The United States shows little interest in pursuing additional arms control or disarmament agreements. The U.S. president still has the sole authority to launch nuclear weapons. No country, let alone a strong democracy, should give its leader the uninhibited power to end the world.

U.S.-Russian relations are worse than they have been since the Cold War. Both the United States and Russia are moving to develop new types of nuclear weapons. The United States alleges that Russia is in non-compliance with the landmark arms control agreement, the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty by developing and deploying treaty-prohibited missiles. On May 8, President Trump withdrew from the Iran Nuclear Deal, formerly known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and violated it

by reimposing sanctions on Iran. This move blew in the face of reason and threatening a successful agreement that imposed unprecedented limitations on Iran’s nuclear program.

In the era of President Trump, progressive organizations in the United States are spread thin. NGOs are working overtime to rise up against the relentless stream of our President’s abhorrent policies and actions. Donald Trump is separating children from their families at the border, and banning immigrants based on their religion and the color of their skin. His second take for the Supreme Court could overturn a fundamental right for women in the United States. The United States is shaken by the shootings in schools and on the streets that outnumber sensible gun laws, and the police brutality that kills innocent black and brown men, women and children across our country.

But there’s hope. Last year, about a month before the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, 122 countries voted to adopt the first treaty to ban nuclear weapons. It is a step in a right direction that is compatible with the goals of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a powerful normative assertion that nuclear weapons are not and never will be acceptable instruments of warfare. It is a reaffirmation of the tireless efforts of the hibakusha. It is the legal undertone to their cry of “never again.”

Several U.S. groups attended the negotiations and have supported the treaty, including professors and students at Princeton and Harvard University, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Los Alamos Study Group and the Arms Control Association.

At the Arms Control Association in Washington, D.C., we are working on a number of additional initiatives to advance arms control and disarmament. We are encouraging the United States and Russia to extend the 2010 New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty before it expires in 2021 and to renew diplomatic efforts to resolve the compliance dispute over the 1987 INF Treaty. We are working to advance entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), including signature and ratification by North Korea as part of the denuclearization process, and by others, particularly the United States, China, Israel and Iran. We encourage all nuclear-armed states to reduce the role and the number of their nuclear weapons and we encourage all states, including Japan, to reduce their fissile material holdings. We underscore the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and the importance of reinforcing the norm against their possession and use, including through the TPNW. We continue to support the Iran Nuclear Deal and condemn President Trump’s foolish decision to drop from it.

Across the United States, cities and states are voting on resolutions calling for restricting the ability of the president to launch nuclear weapons. One such resolution passed in San Francisco, California in March. National legislation has been introduced to curb Presidential sole nuclear launch authority. Trump's reckless behavior and alarming temperament has one silver lining. It highlights the threats of nuclear weapons and their use, and is a call to action for concerned citizens in the United States.

There is a whole new generation of young people who are engaged and committed to making the world a better place. In the United States, I am inspired by passionate young folks advocating for the environment, income equality, racial justice and an end to gun violence. There are not as many young people speaking up about nuclear disarmament. This is something we need to work on. A nuclear explosion would not discriminate - it would destroy the environment and kill people of all ages. Young people understand the need for a more just and peaceful world. We just have not shown them the connection of nuclear injustice to other issues they are passionate about.

As Yasmeen Silva, a young organizer with the Beyond the Bomb campaign in the United States stated in June, our movement does not exist in a silo. In the midst of a nuclear disarmament crisis, we have been given a golden opportunity. We have a powerful normative and legal document demanding disarmament in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. We have a fresh generation of dedicated, smart and creative activists. We have new tools, like social media, to educate, share and to inspire. We just need to connect the dots to move closer to a world free of nuclear weapons.

Yes, the nuclear disarmament movement in the United States faces real changes. But we also have fresh opportunities to take forward this crucial work. We must continue to fight to sustain existing agreements and push for more progressive policies.

Hiroshi Taka
Representative Director
Japan Council against A & H Bombs
(Gensuikyo)

First of all, I would like to welcome two Government representatives, Ambassador Thomas Hajnoczi of Austria and Mr. Jamie Walsh from the Government of Ireland, along with Ms. Alicia Sanders-Zakre from the Arms Control Association, to this Forum. Thank you for joining in the panel.

1. The World Conference and the Japanese Ban

A&H Bombs Movement

To begin with, I would like to briefly introduce our movement. The first World Conference against A and H Bombs was held on August 6 through 8, 1955 in Hiroshima. This conference is, therefore, 63 years old now and marks its 64th anniversary.

The atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. Why, then, was the first conference held 10 years after the atomic bombings? From the critical reflection of the past war of aggression, Japan promulgated its Constitution declaring that Japan renounces war as a means to settle international conflicts, that it does not maintain land, sea or air force and that it lives in peace. But under the full, direct occupation by the US, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers issued an order to ban reporting on the damage of the A-bombings, and documents and photos reporting it were confiscated. The occupation forces declared that all those who would die due to the bombings had already died and that at present no one was suffering from radiation (statement of General Thomas Farrell on Sept. 6 1945). After that, neither the occupation nor the Japanese Government did anything to help the people suffering from the bombings. It actually barred any relief effort.

It was not until March 1954 that things changed. The H-bomb test conducted by the US forces on Bikini Atoll in the Pacific on March 1st caused tremendous damage and contamination from radiation. The Japanese people, as soon as they learned of it, began raising their voices in protest and rose in action at the grassroots level. Assemblies of cities, towns and villages and even the Houses of the Diet passed resolutions, and signature collection demanding a ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs started everywhere in the country. On the basis of this development the first World Conference against A and H Bombs was convened in August 1955. The signatures collected by the first day of the conference reached 31,583,123. This set the prevention of nuclear war, a ban on and the elimination of nuclear weapons, and relief for and solidarity with the Hibakusha, the A-bomb survivors, as the three basic objectives of the movement.

It was in this conference that the Hibakusha stood united to speak of their suffering and call for the elimination of nuclear weapons. It was also in this conference that the people rose in action to provide relief for them. This role of the conference remains unchanged until now.

Dialogue with Government Representatives:
The World Conference began to invite representatives of national governments in 2000, at

the turn of the millennium, and much later from the UN, to develop “dialogues between governments, NGOs and grassroots movements”. Prior to that, we had Ambassador Miguel Marin Bosch of Mexico in 1995, but since 2000 we have made it a systematic program, laying emphasis on the governments that stand in the forefront in the effort for nuclear disarmament, such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the New Agenda Coalition, and so forth.

2. Focal point of the 2018 World Conference: the TPNW and the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the Challenge of the Japanese Movement to form a broad coalition

Now let me talk about the features of this year’s World Conference.

Firstly, as seen in the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) and the continuing effort for its entry into force, our conference is meeting at a time of transition from an era where the world is dominated by the force of a few superpowers to a time when the majority of governments stand for the order of peace and justice and civil society movements cooperate with one another to build our future together.

At the UN conference last year, the TPNW was adopted by the support of the overwhelming majority: 122 governments in favor, as against one vote in opposition. The representatives of the governments we have with us now played a pivotal role in that process. The government of Ireland was the only government that took the floor to make the keynote statement at the organizational session held on Feb. 16, 2017, which led to the TPNW negotiation conference. It also maintained in the sessions in preparation for the last NPT Review Conference that, just as the Non-Nuclear Weapon States had to abide by all NPT articles, the Nuclear Weapon States also had to implement their obligation unconditionally and immediately, by negotiating measures to eliminate nuclear weapons and by bringing those negotiations to a conclusion.

The role played by the Austrian Government is already familiar to us, thanks to Ambassador Alexander Kmentt, who kindly joined us in the 2014 World Conference, Mr. Martin Krüger who were with us in the 2017 World Conference, the Vienna Conference on humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons in December the same year, and the “Humanitarian Pledge”. It is a government that commands our respect.

The adopted treaty prohibited the development, production, testing, possession, as well as use or threat, the bringing-in, and all other actions involving nuclear weapons. It set out the road leading to their total elimination. As I said at the beginning, our movement took the name of the Ban

A&H Movement when it was born, and gave the name “World Conference for the Prohibition of A&H Bombs” to this conference. This is an accurate translation of the name of our conference. Given that the conference has called for the total prohibition of nuclear weapons all throughout its history, I wholeheartedly welcome the birth of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Secondly, this conference is being held amidst ongoing change here in Northeast Asia, from the danger of nuclear and military confrontation to the prospect of building a regime of peace, free of nuclear weapons.

The North and South Korean leaders on April 27 agreed on a joint statement that foresees the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, the end of the Korean war and the establishment of peace, and the reunification of Korea. Following this, the summit talks between North Korea and the USA, held on June 12, agreed on the denuclearization of the Peninsula, peace and North Korea-US relations, thus making steps forward.

We cannot think of this change without calling to mind the role of the peoples’ movements and the public support in Asia and the rest of the world, including the historical struggle of the Korean people for democratization, which led to the birth of the Moon Jae-in Government. We have a lot of Korean friends with us in this conference, including two Korean A-bomb victims. Together we have to grasp the chance for change and make clear the role we want Japan to play to promote this change and what action we should take to bring it about.

3. Next steps towards the elimination of nuclear weapons and the role of our movement

Then, what should we do? Already 59 states have signed the TPNW and 15 have ratified it. When 50 states have ratified it, the treaty will enter into force in 90 days. When in force, the TPNW will become international law. Even if governments that cannot stop loving nukes refuse to sign it and thus evade legal obligations, they will not be able to shirk from political and moral obligations, nor will they be saved from stigma as states that rely on the worst, most inhumane weapons that the world has together forbidden.

We also need to remind them that even if they reject the TPNW, they cannot escape the principles and objectives they have once agreed, such as:

- To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, and abide by the obligation to not use force to resolve international conflict but settle it by peaceful means. (UN Charter),

- To seek to eliminate atomic and all other weapons of mass destruction from national arsenals, (First resolution of the 1st UN General Assembly)

- To pursue negotiations on effective measures relating to nuclear disarmament, and to fulfill their responsibility to bring these negotiations to a conclusion, (Article 6 of the NPT & the ICJ decision in 1996),

- To fulfill the “unequivocal undertaking” to achieve complete elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament (final document of the 2000 NPT RevCom),

- To make special efforts to establish a framework to create and maintain a world without nuclear weapons (final document of the 2010 NPT RevCom), and

- To implement the resolution on the Middle East nuclear weapon-free zone adopted by the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference.

All nuclear powers and the five Nuclear Weapon States, in particular, have to fulfill their responsibility to implement the promises they made on innumerable occasions.

4. The Role of Japan, the A-bombed country, and Article 9

The Japanese movement has one more task to fulfill. A few weeks ago, we of Gensuikyo visited the foreign ministry to submit our proposal on nuclear disarmament. In the talks, the chief of the division on arms control and disarmament asked us skeptically if we really think that Japan could get along without extended nuclear deterrence provided by the United States. Apparently he had the nuclear and missile development of North Korea and China’s maritime advancement in mind. Yet, does the real problem lie there?

The point is that Japan is a country that launched a war of aggression against Asian countries and annexed the Korean Peninsula. It is also the country that pledged the renunciation of war and the peaceful settlement of international conflicts as a Constitutional principle, based on deep repentance for past wrong conduct. It is, therefore, a basic principle for Japan to abide by and implement its Constitutional pledge regardless of North Korea’s or China’s response.

In reality, however, Japan has sought to present Asian countries as threats and blamed them on every occasion. It railroaded war laws which contradicted the Constitution, and even opposed the treaty to ban nuclear weapons. Further, it has rejected attempts to find a diplomatic solution to the problem of the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, saying that “it is a waste of time”. It flatly refused the legitimate demands of the Okinawan people, and is now attempting to destroy the Constitution.

But such outrages can no longer pass. Along with changes in Asia and the world, grassroots

efforts are generating changes in Japan. In the period leading to this World Conference, about 60% of mayors out of a total of some 1700 municipalities appended their signatures to the “Appeal of the Hibakusha” for the prohibition of nuclear weapons. In the same period, the number of local assemblies that passed the resolution demanding that the Japanese Government sign the TPNW has reached beyond 300.

At present, our major effort is to build up the support of the overwhelming majority, or a people’s consensus for a ban on and the elimination of nuclear weapons, and in the demand for the Japanese Government to honor Article 9 rather than destroy it. To this end, it is essential to develop the widest-possible cooperation and grassroots actions. The signature campaign in support of the appeal from the Hibakusha provides us with the best tool for this.

Before concluding, I would like to add that on July 31, the day before we left for Hiroshima, I had a call from Setsuko Thurlow, a Hibakusha living in Canada, who, along with Beatrice Fihn, delivered the Nobel Lecture on behalf of ICAN on receiving the Nobel Peace Prize last year. Knowing that the representatives of the Austrian and Irish Governments would be at this session, she wanted me to convey her deep appreciation and solidarity to them. She also addressed the young participants, saying, please study hard about the tragedies caused by the nuclear weapons as well as the way to abolish them; it is your generation that have to move forward toward the ray of light coming from a world free of nuclear weapons.



From Special Meetings and Workshops: (August 5)

Special Meeting 1: For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Bases-Free Japan and Solidarity with Okinawa

**Jerald Ross
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and
Common Security
U.S.A.**

Statement for a Nuclear-free, Bases-free Japan and Okinawa

Respectful greetings to our hosts, those gathered here from across Japan, and especially to the citizens of Okinawa Prefecture. My name is Jerry Ross and I come from the United States where I live in the State of Massachusetts, near the city of Boston.

It is a privilege to participate in this Special Meeting but a source of remorse and embarrassment as I have come to learn more about the actions of my country in its vast military presence in Okinawa and its continued exploitation of its land and people.

Let me say just a word about who I am and how I came to be here today. I am NOT an expert on US bases in Okinawa. When I was asked to participate in this meeting as a visiting delegate from the United States, I was fortunate to receive a quick tutoring in the issues from Dr. Joseph Gerson, who IS an expert and a long-time friend and advocate of the Okinawan people. Mostly I am here to learn, but I will share what I suspect are common perspectives in the United States regarding bases abroad and a little of what is going on more generally in my country.

Unfortunately, I believe most Americans have very little awareness of the number and cost of US military installations around the world, and even less understanding of their impact on the people and places in which they are located. Let me cite a few figures you are all probably aware of: nearly 800 bases, in over 70 countries and territories, at a cost ranging from \$100 billion dollars a year, to nearly \$200 billion if you include those in active warzones. If bases are talked about at all, it is in the context of “forward staging” of men and material to “deter aggression.” The credibility of such national security claims, how those bases impact the lands they are on, or the legality or morality of their being

there at all, gathers little if any attention in US media. Given the overall size of this deployment, Okinawa, even with its 30-some bases which comprise 70% of Japanese territory used by the US military, Okinawa I am sad to say, would be, in American slang, “a drop in the water-bucket,” meaning, a very small part in something much greater. Add to that the general lack of information about Okinawa --- the typical American might ask, “Is it a part of Japan, or an independent country, located exactly where?” I am afraid there is little public appreciation in my country for the harm these bases cause to the Okinawan people or their long-suffering efforts to have them removed. All of which is to emphasize the importance of continued resistance from the Okinawan people, support for them from among the Japanese people as a whole, and the need for people like myself to carry back to the US what we have learned about your struggle.

Let me also comment for a moment on the general state of affairs in America today. Those of us who worried how terrible things might become under a Donald Trump presidency were wrong. It is even far worse than we imagined. Not in our wildest dreams did we anticipate the depth of his attacks on our national polity and norms of our society. Nor did we recognize the depths of collusion to which the Republican Party would descend in order to retain power. Although American institutions are strong and great resistance has emerged within our population, many of us feel we are in a struggle for the survival of our country as we have known it. To put it mildly, Americans are at this time consumed with many worries “close to home.”

Now, I need to say there is at least a tiny light in all this gloom, and that is the joint Base Closure statement organized by my colleague Joseph Gerson of the Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security, and now being circulated for signature by leaders from across the globe. Originally issued in 2014 and signed by over 100 of the world’s leading Scholars, Artists, and Activists, it called for support of the Okinawan people in their resistance to the planned construction of the new US

base at Henoko. It has now been updated and calls for the closure of ALL US foreign military bases. Addressed to President Donald Trump, Secretary of Defense Mattis, and the US Congress, it details the fundamental reasons foreign military bases fail to serve American interests, actually increase US security problems, and have a profoundly negative impact on the land and people where they are located. The declaration stands as “an unequivocal statement of support for the people of Okinawa in

their struggle for peace, dignity, human rights and protection of their environment...”

We should all be inspired by the courage and determination of the Okinawan people. We at this conference, in any way we are able, and the Japanese people as a whole, should support their Okinawan brethren in their long nonviolent struggle to remove these bases and recover their land and independence.

Special Meeting 2: Non-Nuclear and Peaceful Korean Peninsula and Asia -- What Role Should Japan Play?

Chen Zhe
Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEP), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS)/ Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament
China

China's Asia-Pacific Security Concept and Construction of a Community of Shared Future for Mankind

I. International Pattern and the Situation in the Asia-Pacific

From the perspective of international pattern, negative factors like anti-establishment, anti-globalization and populism, are still widely existing in the current world. Meanwhile, economic slowdown has become the new normal since the global financial crisis of 2008. In 2003-2008, the global economy growth was at an average annual rate of 4.8%, compared with just 3.5% in 2011-2015. According to the IMF's forecast, the world economy will grow at an average annual rate of 3.6% to 4% in 2016-2020. This shows that although the world economic growth has recovered somewhat, the slowdown is no longer a temporary problem caused by the financial crisis. Under the existing development model, low growth may become the normal.

To promote peace and seek stability and development is the strategic goal and common aspiration of most countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Korean peninsula issue has been significantly improved in 2018, and the leaders of US and DPRK achieved a historic meeting. Although the denuclearization process on the peninsula still needs time and faces a series of institutional problems, and it may even be repeated in the middle, peace and stability in Northeast Asia will be maintained for some time.

In addition, there are some uncertainty factors in the Asia-Pacific region which cannot be ignored. Non-traditional security threats such as terrorism, natural disasters, transnational crime become more prominent, some countries are undergoing huge political and social transformation, economic downward pressure, etc., these risk are closely related with us, and will also profoundly affect political and economic development of each other.

II. A Brief of China's Nuclear Policy

It mainly includes nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

China has consistently stood for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. China is firmly committed to a nuclear strategy of self-defense. China has adhered to the policy of no-first-use of nuclear weapons at any time and under any circumstance, and has made the unequivocal commitment that we will unconditionally not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones. China does not participate in any form of nuclear arms race, has never deployed nuclear weapons outside its own territory, and will continue to keep our nuclear capabilities at the minimum level required for national security.

All nuclear-weapon states should fulfill in good faith obligations under Article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and publicly undertake not to seek permanent possession of nuclear weapons. Countries with the largest nuclear arsenals should continue to take the lead in making drastic and substantive reductions in their nuclear weapons. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty should be brought into force at an early date, and negotiations on the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty should start as soon as possible. When conditions are ripe, other nuclear-weapon states should also join the multilateral negotiations

on nuclear disarmament. To attain the ultimate goal of complete and thorough nuclear disarmament, the international community should develop, at an appropriate time, a viable, long-term plan composed of phased actions, including the conclusion of a convention on the complete prohibition of nuclear weapons.

All nuclear-weapon states should abandon the nuclear deterrence policy based on first use of nuclear weapons and take credible steps to reduce the threat of nuclear weapons. All nuclear-weapon states should make an unequivocal commitment of unconditionally not using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones, and conclude a legally-binding international instrument in this regard. In the meantime, nuclear-weapon states should negotiate and conclude a treaty on no-first-use of nuclear weapons against one another.

On non-proliferation, China believes that the fundamental purpose of non-proliferation is to safeguard and promote international and regional peace and security, and non-proliferation measures should be conducive to achieving this goal. China takes an active part in the international and regional non-proliferation process, supports the UN in playing its due role in the non-proliferation field and has joined all the international treaties and relevant international organizations in the non-proliferation field.

III. China's Security Concept in the Asia-Pacific Region

In the Asia-Pacific region, especially in East Asia, the possibility of direct war between major powers is very low, among which the primary factor is asymmetric nuclear deterrence structure in East Asia. This is one of the core theoretical foundations that we assert that old concepts such as cold war mentality and ideological struggle are outdated.

In the face of the new international situation and challenges, countries should strengthen solidarity and cooperation in the spirit of openness and inclusiveness, make security vision innovations, work to improve regional security systems and explore a new path for Asia-Pacific security.

At the Fourth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held in May 2014, Chinese President Xi Jinping called for a concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and a path of security featuring wide consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in the Asia-Pacific region.

Common security means respecting and ensuring the security of each and every country involved. We cannot just have the security of one or

some countries while leaving the rest insecure, still less should we seek "absolute security" of oneself at the expense of the security of others. We should respect and accommodate the legitimate security concerns of all parties. To beef up a military alliance targeted at a third party is not conducive to maintaining common security.

Comprehensive security means upholding security in both traditional and non-traditional fields. We should take into full account the historical background and reality concerning regional security, adopt a multi-pronged and holistic approach, and enhance regional security governance in a coordinated way. While tackling the immediate security challenges facing the region, we should also make plans for addressing potential security threats.

Cooperative security means promoting the security of both individual countries and the region as a whole through dialogue and cooperation. The countries involved should engage in sincere and in-depth dialogue and communication to increase strategic mutual trust, reduce mutual misgivings, seek common ground while resolving differences and live in harmony with one another. We should bear in mind the common challenges and actively foster the awareness of meeting security challenges through cooperation. And we should expand the scope of and explore new ways for cooperation, and promote peace and security through cooperation.

Sustainable security means that the countries involved need to focus on both development and security to realize durable security. All the parties should focus on development, actively improve people's lives and narrow the wealth gap so as to cement the foundation of security. We should advance common development and regional integration, and push for sound interactions and the synchronized progress of regional economic and security cooperation in order to promote sustainable security through sustainable development.

IV. Some Thoughts on the Community of Shared Future for Mankind

In the field of global governance, there has been more research from the perspective of economics but less from political science or other disciplines. There are more researches on specific fields or issues, but less on basic theories or conceptual categories. In particular, it lacks a complete logic analysis framework and a set of concept system that concentrates theory and facilitates dialogue and communication.

In reality, many countries have been deeply aware that traditional global governance mechanisms have been unable to cope with various complicated global crises or problems. Both in

theory and in practice, time calls for us to consider the future and destiny of international relations from the perspective of a larger proposition.

The concept of a community of Shared future for mankind covers a wide range, but it is inseparable from the themes of peace and development. The United Nations concept of sustainable development has been deeply rooted in the hearts of people, but there are not contents like sustainable security in United Nations governance mechanism. It is just because we have been focusing on development too much but neglected security for long time, that many problems have not been solved, which resulted in such a serious "global governance deficit". Only by adopting new wisdom and

solutions can we better solve a series of global problems.

Therefore, I think this activity is very meaningful. In fact, everyone including organizers of this conference, participants from all over the world, CPAPD who sent me here, we have made great efforts and even experienced difficulties that could not be understood by ordinary people. Many of the topics in this conference are essentially aiming to a common goal, which is more peaceful and secure. This 'secure' means common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, not unilateral, temporary security in one country or field. For this is a community of shared future.

Workshop 6: Cutback on Military Expenses to Realize a Peaceful and Decent Human Life

Kari Thompson
United Electrical Radio and Machine
Workers of America (UE)
U.S.A.

It's an honor to be here with you all talking about peace in a city that has suffered so greatly from war. As an American, I express my deepest condolences to the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki for my government's shameful behavior 73 years ago. We are here today to think practically about how we can prevent such tragedies from ever occurring again.

I am here on behalf of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, which I will refer to as "UE" today. UE is an American trade union representing a variety of workers across the country, from manufacturing to industrial laundries, from food co-op workers to social workers. We began in 1936 on the principles that all working people must unite as equals against their bosses—regardless of their race, gender, religion, or political beliefs—or the bosses would continue to exploit workers based on these false divisions. Though we were a founding member of the CIO, the Congress of Industrial Organizations, we left that body of trade unions when they no longer supported these principles.

In time, our independence has allowed us to be rooted to our principles that workers' rights are human rights, and this extends to the right to live a life free from war and violence. As part of our resolution "For Jobs, Peace and a Pro-Worker Foreign Policy" states, "Foreign and military policies should defend the interests of

working people, not the wealthy. UE has long supported the labor movement promoting its own foreign policy ideas based on diplomacy and labor solidarity. We are proud to be a founder of U.S. Labor Against the War, which advances such a policy. Our government should not destabilize democracy on behalf of billionaires. It should promote peace, jobs, and justice for all."

This same resolution goes on to emphasize some important pieces for our topic here today. Among other things, UE resolves to demand "the U.S. government invest in peace and build economic security by:

a. Reducing the military budget while improving wages, healthcare, and pensions of soldiers and veterans;

b. Reappropriating defense savings into transportation, housing, healthcare, education, renewable resource development, or other peaceful infrastructure;

c. The creation of a fund to guarantee any worker or soldier displaced by conversion from a war economy to a peace economy up to four years' living allowance and educational expenses."

We see these steps as very practical ways to improve the lives of working people in the US through better access to resources they currently lack, and also a way to improve the lives of workers abroad who currently suffer because of our military aggression. The reality is that our imbalanced spending has created conditions that perpetuate the status quo: by investing in the military rather than the public school system, working class kids leave secondary school poorly equipped to enter the workforce. One option, like here in Japan, is to attend university but to incur a great amount of debt

in doing so. The other main option is to enlist in the military, where they will earn wage and have healthcare provided to them and their families. Unfortunately, this system harms most often people of color, whose communities have been continuously under-resourced due to systemic racism.

Additionally in this resolution, UE resolves to support “the struggle of our sister union Zenroren to halt the repeal of Article 9 of Japan’s Peace constitution, to close all U.S. military bases in Japan, and to halt all U.S. efforts to convert the Japanese Self-Defense Force to offensive purposes.” This includes joining the call for an end to the unnecessary and ecologically devastating proposed expansion of the base in Okinawa.

But what good are these words if we don’t do anything with them? In UE, our resolutions are just starting points for further work with our members. First, all our resolutions, including this one, are discussed and voted on democratically at our national conventions every two years. Following the event, we share these resolutions with our members in a variety of ways, including using them to inspire other programming.

One of our most successful ways of building an understanding of international solidarity and the need for peace among workers regardless of borders is to get our members interacting with other international workers, in person if possible. A prescient example of this occurred just a few months ago.

Our partners in US Labor Against the War, that I mentioned earlier, began their work focusing on the wars in the Middle East, but they are expanding their mission. In May, this organization brought a group of diverse rank-and-file trade unionists to Korea to visit with the KCTU. UE was proud to send a member on this delegation to learn more about the constant threat felt by the Korean people because of the US’s military posture on the peninsula. Our member, Darrion Smith from North Carolina, marched in the May Day parade in Seoul, which was really fun for him. But he also visited the demilitarized zone and met with workers whose families had been torn apart by the war, which was emotionally wrenching for him.

This trip had been in the works for many months, but its timing was auspicious. Just as the group was preparing to depart, UE, and I’m sure many of those in this room, heartily welcomed the Panmunjom Declaration as a step towards peace. This set a great backdrop for the trip, inspiring hope that it is possible to make progress towards peace. In UE, we feel it’s important to acknowledge that the goals laid out in the declaration would not have occurred

without the Candlelight Movement. The people took to the street to demand an end to corruption and a path towards peace, and without this pressure, these advancements would not have been made. I should note that we were very excited by the release of former KCTU President Han Sang-gyun, who was so instrumental in leading that democratic uprising. His release occurred shortly after the US Labor Against the War delegation returned to the States.

Now that he is back, Darrion has used his experiences on this trip to talk with his coworkers about the need for peace and denuclearization. This isn’t to imply that prior to the trip Darrion was a war hawk—of course not. But meeting Koreans first hand, understanding their sense of dread at the expansion of the US military presence on their lands, it raised the profile of these issues for him. This is one practical way that we grow our movement.

The connections don’t end there. Darrion is a public sector worker for the Department of Health and Human Services in North Carolina. This means he knows firsthand what his coworkers and the everyday people they serve could do with an expanded budget. If we weren’t spending money on expansion of a missile defense system, we could pay Darrion and his coworkers a living wage. If we weren’t paying to stabilize the soil of a wetland so that we could put a helicopter pad there, we could improve the staffing ratios at the state-run hospitals and clinics where our members work, improving the care residents receive. If we weren’t investing in a new communication system for our missile program, we could provide quality healthcare not just to our veterans, but to all people living in the U.S.

In UE, we can see the path that will allow us to divest from the increasingly corporate-driven military and instead invest in each other. And through such a change, we can create a world where we will have no more Hibakusha.

Other examples:

- Takashi Morizumi’s photography exhibit “Strange Beauty: Autoradiography from Fukushima” at 2017 UE convention.

- Labor Notes panel on Asian Unions fighting Militarism: representatives from Zenroren (Keisuke Fuse), KCTU (Kim Kyoung-ja and Ryu Mikyung), and Filipino scholar Ligaya Lindio McGovern

Closing Plenary

2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Hiroshima (August 6)



Speeches by Representatives of National Governments:

Carlos Fernando Almada López Ambassador to Japan United Mexican States

It is an honor for me to participate in the commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of the atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki on 6 and 9 August 1945, which left more than 200,000 people dead and whose terrible and dire humanitarian consequences are still wreaking havoc.

Mexico pays homage to the Japanese people, particularly to the survivors of the atomic bombs (Hibakushas) whose strength and testimony have been fundamental in raising awareness of the devastating effects of nuclear weapons and transmitting the message that this experience should not be repeated under any circumstances by any actor.

Despite the efforts made by some of those who have nuclear weapons, it is alarming that there are still more than 15,000 nuclear weapons, of which about 1,800 are still on high alert. This is an excessive expenditure for the countries involved. It

means that nuclear weapons and their development pose a risk to the world's people, as well as to development, the environment, global health and food security.

We must also remember that nuclear weapons are the most devastating weapons of mass destruction, and they are the only weapons of this type that, until July 7, 2017, had not been explicitly banned through any multilateral legal instrument of global scope.

Ladies and gentlemen:

Since the first nuclear detonation, 73 years ago, Mexico unilaterally and irreversibly adopted the decision to never develop nuclear weapons or allow the installation of nuclear weapons from another country in our territory. That is why our Constitution states that nuclear energy only can be used for peaceful purposes. Today, most of the international community supports this cause.

The Treaty of Tlatelolco, which celebrated its 51st anniversary this year, is clear proof of this. The Latin American and Caribbean States collectively decided to abandon our personal interests for the common good. This political will today is the foundation for the complete banning of nuclear weapons.

Fifty years after its adoption, the Treaty of Tlatelolco demonstrates that a world free of nuclear weapons is not an unattainable dream. The existence of four other nuclear-weapon-free zones, plus Mongolia, attest to this reality on more than half of the planet's surface.

But this responsibility is not solely for the member countries of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones. All States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the cornerstone of non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, must continue to strive for its universality, incorporating States that are yet to comply so as to fulfil the commitment of nuclear disarmament.

That is why Mexico welcomes the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) on 7th July 2017, which will prohibit the production, possession, use and transfer of nuclear weapons to States that might decide to accede to it.

The TPNW is a manifestation of the opinion of the vast majority of States that nuclear weapons, far from providing security, due to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of their detonation, are an existential threat to humanity.

The Treaty is consistent with Mexico's recognized and broad diplomatic tradition of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. This Treaty strengthens the legal framework established by the 1968 NPT and the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which established the first Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in Latin America and the Caribbean in 1967.

The TPNW will not replace the NPT; on the contrary, it is consistent with the obligation set out in Article VI of the NPT, which explicitly states that: "each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control." In any case, the two instruments will complement each other, thus strengthening the non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament regime.

The treaty will join other international instruments and will be a key part of the efforts to move towards nuclear disarmament.

It is our historic and collective responsibility to ensure that such attacks as those on Hiroshima and Nagasaki never repeated. That is why my country is ready to continue to play a key role in the actions promoted by the international community.

Thomas Hajnoczi
Director for Disarmament, Arms Control
and Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry
for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs
Austria

It is with great humility that I address you here today. There is no more meaningful venue to talk about the need to eliminate nuclear weapons than here. I bow before the hundreds of thousands of victims of the nuclear bombing 73 years ago and before the Hibakushas and their descendants and want to pay tribute to them. I always felt that we owe it to them to finally prohibit nuclear weapons. Their suffering and resolve guided us. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a reward for their untiring commitment and a first tangible step towards the "never again".

My country, Austria, was together with a handful of other committed countries and very importantly civil society leading the diplomatic process that led to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons a year ago. Often I am asked how a small Western European country like Austria could take the lead in a political process that meets criticism by the major powers. The answer is simple: We have ethical principles and stand for them. One of our priorities in foreign policy is the protection of civilians. Therefore Austria has been also instrumental in bringing about the anti-personnel mine ban convention. In the same vein we are trying to bring the issue of the use of explosive weapons with wide area effects in populated areas on the international agenda. When 92 per cent of the victims are civilians, we cannot just sit and watch, we have to speak up and act.

In the case of nuclear weapons close to 100 per cent of victims are civilians and the casualties can only be measured in hundreds of thousands or millions. The catastrophic humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons has of course been evident ever since 1945. It is saddening that this has not prevented a nuclear arms race which has left us with a legacy of around 14.500 nuclear weapons today, sufficient to wipe out humankind several times over. What is more, the nuclear build up continues, new nuclear weapons are under development and billions of dollars go into modernization programs of all nuclear armed States instead of being used for making the world a better place to live for the underprivileged billions of people on this planet. This behavior runs counter to the disarmament obligations that have been taken by all States parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. So the professed commitment of the nuclear armed States

to the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons lacks credibility.

What are the reasons for this state of affairs? There must be a myth that some people attach to nuclear weapons. Some politicians think that it is the unparalleled destructiveness of nuclear weapons, either their own or those of allies, that provides security to their countries. This is a most dangerous strategy. We all know that the use of a nuclear weapon would lead to a nuclear counterattack from the other side. How can you make your country more secure by creating the risk that high numbers of your citizens would be killed? Ultimately, basing your security on the nuclear threat can result in a full-fledged nuclear exchange ending human life on this planet. So nuclear weapons are not only a danger to the security of the other country, but clearly a danger to the security of your own country and, indeed, mankind as such.

Proponents of nuclear weapons argue that nuclear weapons do not exist to be used, but only to secure peace by their very existence as a tool of threatening that would not be used. This line of argumentation opens up to questioning the utility of nuclear weapons. When everyone assumes that they would not be used, why should anybody feel threatened by nuclear weapons? So how could they provide security?

In contrast, when nuclear weapons are perceived as a means of warfare that really could be used, the first strike of the enemy would try to take them out, if there would not have been already a preventive strike. Therefore we are living in a world with “launch on alarm”. The slogan “use them or lose them” echoes the pressure to attack with nuclear weapons as quickly as possible in the early phase of a military confrontation. As historic evidence suggests, a technical error in the surveillance system could trigger the launching of missiles with nuclear warheads.

Over the last few years, significant new insights into the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons have emerged. Much of the evidence was presented to the public on the occasion of the Vienna Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons in late 2014. On one hand, it was shown in which ways the impact of any nuclear explosion reaches much further in space and lasts much longer in time, than was assumed previously. The secondary effects of nuclear explosions like nuclear winter due to the masses of ashes in the stratosphere would cause millions of people to starve even in faraway regions and on other continents. On the other hand, it was shown that today a significant risk of a nuclear explosion actually occurring exists. Remember that for instance in comparison with the Cold War period,

nowadays we are faced with a larger number of nuclear armed actors whose interactions with each other appear ever more difficult to predict. Adding to the danger of an intentional use of nuclear weapons, the risk of an unintentional nuclear explosion is real as a number of accidents have shown over the years. We had good luck that until now we had no unintended nuclear explosions, but the more years go by, the higher the probability that such an accident will actually happen. And the risk of a nuclear weapon explosion is augmenting. Just think of computer hacking into nuclear weapon systems or terrorists getting hold of nuclear weapons.

The continued existence of some 14.500 nuclear weapons has also a negative influence on non-proliferation efforts. There is no credibility for nuclear armed States to promote non-proliferation, when they are not convincing the world that they are in the process of eliminating their own nuclear weapons. As long as nuclear armed States are underlining that they need nuclear weapons for their own security, other States will believe them and seek themselves to get nuclear weapons for their own security. Especially in zones of conflicts voices are heard that demand to develop nuclear weapons. And the more States would possess nuclear weapons, the more insecure the world would be.

Fortunately, the overwhelming majority of States has taken a conscious decision not to seek nuclear weapons for their security. Far more than 100 States have joined nuclear weapon free zones and 122 States have adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons last year. We see more and more States signing and ratifying this landmark treaty and it is well on its way towards entry into force in the foreseeable future. The overwhelming majority of States has chosen life without the dangling sword of nuclear annihilation over a culture of death by nuclear incineration. In those countries that still believe that they depend on nuclear weapons for their protection a change of mindset is possible. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons certainly does not detract from the security of any State. On the contrary, a nuclear weapon free world as the treaty’s objective will be a safer and more secure world for everybody without exception. In democracies the government and ultimately the population can bring about a new orientation of policy regarding nuclear weapons. It is up to all of us. We owe it out of respect for all who died as result of nuclear weapons and we owe it to the future of our children.

Special Program: 73 Years of the A-Bombing: From the A-Bombed City of Hiroshima:

Yamada Reiko
Hibakusha of Hiroshima/Vice President,
Tokyo Federation of A-Bomb Survivors
Organizations (Toyukai)

I believe that all of you in attendance today have deeply learned about the theme of the World Conference, “For a Nuclear Weapon-Free, Peaceful and Just World” over the past three days.

At 8:15 am, 73 years ago, when the first-ever nuclear weapon was dropped on Hiroshima, I was playing on the ground of Koi Elementary School, 2.5 km from Ground Zero. I was 5th grader and 11 years old.

It was a sweltering morning. The sun was scorching and there were no clouds in the sky.

“Look, a B29 is coming!” a boy shouted, and I looked up at the sky and saw the silver-shining B29 bomber flying high in the blue sky, drawing a white arc with its vapor trail. “That’s pretty,” I thought. The next moment there was a blinding white flash.

As I began to rush to the air-raid shelter, the hot sand blew strong against my back. I overturned on the ground. I reached the shelter to find a crowd of people from the neighbourhoods. There was no room left in the shelter. While waiting outside, we got drenched from the sudden rain, which we later learned to be the radioactive “Black Rain”. We were wet and shivering with cold. The sunlight was blocked by the hanging heavy gray clouds.

My town did not get burned. I saw so many people with injuries and burns escaped from the area near the hypocenter and filled the roads. (Around this time of that day, the situation was like this.)

And those who fell on the road under the scorching sun were lying upon another, died unattended two or three days later.

you

*you cry, but there is no outlet for your tears
you scream, but there are no lips to become
words*

*you try to struggle, but your fingers have no skin
to grasp*

you

*(From ‘At a Field-Dressing Station’, Poems of the
Atomic Bomb by Toge Sankichi)*

It is from a famous poem by “atomic poet” Toge Sankichi.

In my schoolyard, those bodies were collected and burned like garbage even without identifying

them. There is only a record that says 2,300 unidentified people were cremated there.

140,000 people are said to have died in Hiroshima and 70,000 in Nagasaki by the end of the year, and 42% of them is classified as missing.

My father was rescued from under a collapsed school building about 1 kilometer from the hypocenter and was helped by two soldiers to come home. He was covered with blood all over the body due to wounds caused by fragments of broken glass. My eldest sister, who was bombed at Hiroshima Station, 2 kilometers from Ground Zero, came back home on the evening of the next day. She got burns in the neck and the back. But we had no medicine to treat their burns.

My father was lying down and groaning and my sister only kept crying out in pain, unable to lie down with upper half of her body naked and sore. But it was lucky for them to come back home.

A good friend of mine in the neighborhood was waiting with her brothers and sisters for her mother to come home. On the day after the bombing, their mother came back. She looked like a moving black lump crawling into the house. She collapsed and died when she finally got home, in front of her children. At another neighbor’s home, the mother looked for her missing 13-year-old daughter around Hiroshima City with lunch box every day but was unable to find her.

The atomic bomb is an inhumane weapon that cruelly takes away the lives of untold number of people indiscriminately and destroys cities and environment with heat rays, blast and radioactivity. The survivors continue to live with constant anxiety and pain, physically and mentally.

The Hibakusha movement continued for more than 60 years calling for no such tragedy to be repeated and to promote “No atomic bombs” and “a peaceful world without war or nuclear weapons”. I am grateful to all of you who have been extending support to the Hibakusha movement. And I call on you to work together for the abolition of nuclear weapons.



Mimaki Toshiyuki
Representative Director
Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb
Sufferers Organizations
(Nihon Hidankyo)

I am a representative director of Nihon Hidankyo and live in Hiroshima. I was born in 1942 in Shimura, Itabashi Ward, Tokyo. Following the Great Tokyo Air Raid, I moved to Hiroshima, my father's hometown, and suffered the atomic bombing.

Last year I visited the United Nations in New York with Mr. Takakusaki and Ms. Tsuchida of Gensuikyo. We were able to deliver 2.96 million signatures in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha to Ms. Elayne Whyte, Chairperson of the UN conference to negotiate a treaty to prohibit nuclear weapons and Ms. Nakamitsu Izumi, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation for all the support we received to accomplish this mission.

Since the negotiations at the NPT Review Conference had broken down, we Hibakusha had almost lost our prospects for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Two years ago, however, as our ultimate attempt, we launched the "International Signature Campaign in support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons".

In Hiroshima Prefecture, we are working in high spirit to collect by 2020 1.4 million signatures representing a half of the total population of the prefecture.

As the average age of Hibakusha has exceeded 82 years, I feel our activity is declining. The number of Hibakusha, said to be 150,000 now, will go down to less than 50,000 within 10 years. I do not want to finish my life without making sure that all nuclear weapons are removed.

In this regard, I would like to urge young people to realize how horrifying nuclear weapons are so that they join us in the struggle for a world without such weapons. High school student peace ambassadors are really active collecting signatures and making efforts to get their call heard outside Japan. We Hibakusha will continue to work, trying to take up the challenge of passing the torch to our young successors.

In the prewar period, education was used to encourage young people to go to war. In the 21st century, education should inspire young people to build a country of peace, free of nuclear weapons.

You have come from all over Japan to join this conference in Hiroshima. I would like you to look

at the things left behind by war victims and displayed at the peace museum and other evidences of what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki 73 years ago. I would like you to take back home the true stories and share them with others. It will be golden opportunities to collectively reflect on what would happen if a nuclear weapon were used again.

Please imagine what would have happened if you had been in Hiroshima on August 6, 73 years ago. Look up the sky of Hiroshima and imagine a B-29 flying in over the city and dropping an atomic bomb. What is the possibility do you think for a nuclear weapon to be used anywhere in the world? It would go up and down like seesaw as the international situation change, wouldn't it?

Most regrettable is that we are unable to count on the Japanese government for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

We human beings cannot live on without completely eliminating nuclear weapons, the most deadly weapons from the earth. The ban treaty was adopted but we still need to see what will follow, including the stance each nuclear weapons state and country depending on "nuclear umbrella" will adopt, especially in the relevant international fora such as the upcoming UN General Assembly. Let us keep on remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki 73 years ago, deeply appreciating the preciousness of peace, and continuing to raise our voice to demand the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Ishida Nanako
Graduate of Hiroshima Municipal
Motomachi High School, Class of 2018

Thank you for the introduction. My name is Ishida Nanako, graduate of Hiroshima Municipal Motomachi High School, General Course, Creative Expression Program.

I would like to tell you about the "Paintings of the Atomic Bomb". This is a project in which artists paint based on the Hibakushas' testimonies. It aims to assist the Hibakushas when they share their testimonies at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, so that the audience can better understand. Motomachi High School has participated in this project for the past 11 years.

When I first found out about the Paintings of the Atomic Bomb shortly after entering high school, I couldn't decide whether to participate or not. I wasn't sure if it was something I can do, and I asked my family and teachers for advice.

They told me "It's better to regret doing it than to regret not doing it." I started to think "That's right. If I'm going to regret, it may be as well to regret

after trying it!" Encouraged by many people, I decided to participate in this project. It was good that I made the decision, but it was the first time for me to make a picture of what I hear. I was worried so much about whether I could portray the survivors' stories.

With such feelings of anxiety, I met the first survivor I would be working with, Mr. Yamamoto Sadao. When I first met him and heard his account in person, I honestly couldn't imagine what it was like, and rather than feeling scared I felt shocked. The scene I painted is the fireball that he saw from the Eastern Drill Ground, which was located to the north of the present Hiroshima station. This is an area that I know very well. I used to walk nearby as my commute to high school. In this area where I have walked through daily, his friends once lay strewn on the ground as you see in this painting. The massive, pink ball of fire appeared behind Hiroshima Station. I imagined all of these things actually happened in my own backyard. It was when I finally felt fear. So many people had collapsed in agony, in my very familiar landscape.

It wasn't my first time listening to a survivor's testimony, but in order to make a painting out of it, I needed to ask more details that normally wouldn't be shared, and they frightened me even more.

I first concentrated so hard on accurately depicting the scene Yamamoto-san told me about. Then, I made effort so that the picture could leave an impression on people who would see it and they could understand the scene of his testimony. As I had an experience to be unable to fully understand a survivor's testimony just by listening, I hoped that my painting would be of help in Yamamoto-san's activity to share his testimony.

Through this project, I had the opportunity to speak to high school students around my age who had come to Hiroshima on their school excursions. Some listened to me very seriously, while others would cry as they listened. This made me realize that my story and painting resonate with people. My work was meaningful, it helps tell the story.

I also had the opportunity to talk to overseas visitors who came for a peace education training organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). One of them told me, "This may be a thing of the past for you, but don't forget that in the world, things similar to your painting are happening to this day." I always regarded the news of conflicts on TV as something irrelevant for me and something happening elsewhere. I had been indifferent in these matters, but I understood that I had to change my way of thinking.

Through this project I have met and conversed with many people. This experience motivated me to have as many people as possible learn about the A-

bomb damage. This feeling has grown stronger with time. I want to take part in whatever action I can do, and one such action is sharing my experience, like I am doing today. I hope to continue to be involved somehow in this activity. The atomic bombing is not a matter of the past. It's very important to pass the Hibakusha's stories on to the next generation and ensure that they will be inherited. I believe it is time for the younger generation like me, to take action.

Actions for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World -- Speeches by Overseas Delegates:

Rachel Melly Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament U.K.

Hello everybody. I am honoured to be with you here in Hiroshima for such a fantastic and crucial conference and I bring greetings from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. CND values highly its relationship with Gensuikyo and the movements present at this conference. Together we represent the overwhelming majority of humanity, struggling for peace and nuclear disarmament. In this CND's sixtieth anniversary year, we have collectively recommitted to our goal of a nuclear weapons-free world and we thank our international partners and friends for the support and solidarity expressed over so many decades.

We stand at a turning point in world affairs: in one direction lies an ever-increasing certainty of nuclear annihilation – a route pursued by a small minority of states; in the other lies the possibility of global nuclear abolition. In one direction is the nuclear modernisation and 'usable nukes' agenda of the Trump administration and the nuclear weapons states; in the other is the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The divergence has rarely been so stark or so dangerous, and it is into this space that all our energies, our shared wisdom and experience, must be poured: to achieve the outcome which will ensure the survival of us all.

We are fighting for humanity against the horror of war. To make our governments responsive and accountable over our right to stay alive, our right to breathe air free of radioactive pollution, our right to say no to the indiscriminate killing of people. And it has never been more crucial.

The challenges facing us today are enormous. On the global scale we face the rise of the far right, given support by President Trump, who with his trashing of the Iranian nuclear deal, his new nuclear

posture review and national defence strategy, and his wild rhetoric about nuclear use, brings us as close to nuclear use as at any time during the cold war. The British Prime Minister Theresa May has herself said that she would be willing press the nuclear button, even knowing that millions of people would be killed.

Britain itself contributes to the increase in global tension, by insisting that it must replace its Trident nuclear weapons system, going against its commitments under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and rejecting out-of-hand any involvement in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Our government has said that Britain will never sign the Treaty, but we are determined to prove them wrong. Britain is also part of the increasing global expenditure on nuclear weapons: President Trump has pledged \$1.2 trillion, but our own government has committed £205 billion (over 30 trillion Japanese yen) to replacing Trident, Britain's nuclear weapons system. Indeed, over the past decade, our work has focused very strongly on the cost of Trident replacement.

In this work we prioritise working together with other organisations, building alliances across civil society. We would always prefer to work with others than on our own. We may lead an alliance against nuclear weapons but the measure of our success is how many organisations that are not primarily about nuclear weapons will come on board to support us. We do not want to work only with those who are already on side, but to win others to the cause.

An example of this in practice is the Stop Trident Alliance that we built against the replacement of Trident in 2015. Thirty national organisations came together with CND to oppose the government's plan. We mobilised hundreds of thousands across the country and on our demonstration in London, we were joined on the platform by trade union leaders, faith leaders, and party leaders – the list is a long one and it shows the breadth of social and political support for our movement and how it is possible to mobilise them.

For historic reasons, a former imperial power and so forth, many British politicians – and some citizens – feel that Britain must be a global leader, must 'punch above its weight', as Tony Blair used to say. The tragedy is that they see this in military terms, rather than in terms of using Britain's wealth and resources to advance the condition of humanity, both at home and globally. This is where a political leadership with a vision could throw off the shackles of nuclear weapons and use its energies to help reshape a world without nuclear weapons. In short, be a government that would recognise that it is just too dangerous for nuclear weapons to

continue to exist, and to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. That would truly be a global leadership role.

So there are huge threats that confront us all, and there are also huge opportunities. It is the nature of our movement that we wish to fight internationally, working together in solidarity. And that has never been more important. None of the problems we face can be solved on a national basis, they must be solved internationally, and we must be united to meet that challenge.

Today we recommit to that international cooperation and solidarity, to ensure that no one will ever again experience the catastrophe and tragedy which faced the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

No More Hiroshimas – No More Nagasakis!
For a world free from nuclear weapons!

Dong Huy Cuong Vietnam Peace Committee

Action for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World

Thank you Gensuikyo for giving the chance again to speak here today, contributing a voice from Vietnam to the struggle for a world without nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction.

Two-third of a century have passed since the first and only A-bombs were dropped in this beautiful country, we can still see the war via stories of Hibakushas. In Vietnam, I belong to a generation who have never experienced the war, but I still feel the pain of war whenever I see or visit or hear a story about a victim of Agent Orange, of a "heroic mother" whose husbands and children were killed by the war. And until now, there are still people who cannot enjoy a single day of peace. People over the world have talked a lot about millennium development goals (MDGs) and about sustainable development goals (SDGs), which we expect to bring about happiness, equality and justice to all people. However, with thousands of nuclear warheads possessed by nuclear weapons nations, with the expansion and modernization of the nuclear arsenals, with nuclear deterrence still being used as a pretext for the so-call "global security" and "national security", with major powers still threatening to use force against other nations, such goals seem to be a dream which will never come true.

However, In the mid of the complicated global situation, within a year we had experienced two encouraging events, the adoption of a legally binding treaty to ban nuclear weapons in July 2017 (after a year, 14 countries have ratified it) and the

inter-Korea summit, followed by the US-DPRK Summit, which are promising signs for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the world as a whole.

Let me once again congratulate peace movements around the world, including Gensuikyo and Japanese people, for the tireless effort we have been making through the years. Though we are still very far from achieving our goal of a nuclear weapon-free zones, what we have made so far is quite encouraging.

Now we enter a new struggle, which may be even harder and require greater efforts. Regarding the treaty, I think that the very first thing to do is to make it come into force as soon as possible, and that all countries, especially nuclear countries, should join, sign, ratify and implement it. I myself do not have specific recommendations for what we should do at the moment, but I propose that we focus on lobbying those countries which supports the treaty to sign and ratify it first, while urging nuclear state to join.

Concerning the recent development in the Korean Peninsula, I once again agree with the idea that civil society strongly support the peace process and push up an action plan toward the fulfilment of commitments made by US President Trump and DPRK leader Kim. Civil society should also support any initiatives or effort made to improve the relations between Republic of Korea and DPRK, in the interest of both peoples, as well as for denuclearization and for peace in the region.

Before concluding, I would once again to emphasize the importance of reviving “international solidarity”. Vietnamese people have a famous saying that “a single tree cannot make the forest”. I am strongly confident that with international solidarity, with effort made by all peace movements and peace-loving people in the world, we will achieve our final aim of a “peaceful world without nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction”

No more Hiroshima! No more Nagasaki
Justice for Hibakusha.



Park Seok Min
Director of Education Bureau
Korean Confederation of Trade Unions
(KCTU)
R.O.K.

**People in South Korea and Japan
should be the key players in an era of
peace in Northeast Asia**

On the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I offer my heartfelt condolences for all victims of this crime against humanity. I also want to take this opportunity to extend greetings of solidarity to peace forces fighting in their respective countries for their belief that there must be no more victims of nuclear war in the history of humankind.

Friends, South Korea (Korean Peninsula) suffered the largest casualties in the atomic bombing after Japan. But Barack Obama, the US president at the time, disregarded Korean victims when he offered an apology to Japan while visiting Hiroshima in 2016. When Korea was under Japanese colonial rule, workers and other Koreans were conscripted to work in Japan. Those who had been recruited to Hiroshima and Nagasaki were killed there. The Japanese and US governments are called upon to offer an apology to the Korean Hibakusha, including those from the northern half of the Korean Peninsula, and to make every effort to compensate them and extend support to them. I believe that this is also a task to be fulfilled as we enter an era of peace in Northeast Asia.

A new era of peace is opening up in East Asia. On April 27, the leaders of South and North Korea issued the Panmunjom Declaration, which said: “There will be no more war on the Korean Peninsula and thus a new era of peace has begun.” The leaders of North Korea and the United States signed a statement in Singapore reconfirming a new relationship between the two countries, the building of lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, and the complete denuclearization of the peninsula. North Korea has destroyed its nuclear test site and dismantled the missile test site. North Korea has begun sending US soldiers’ remains back to their country in accordance with the bilateral agreement. If the United States moves to end its hostile policy toward North Korea in response to and in parallel with the denuclearization measures taken by the North, it will then be possible to realize peace on the Korean Peninsula.

In making the Korean Peninsula nuclear-free, it is necessary, in addition to the elimination of North Korea’s nuclear weapons, to remove the US nuclear

umbrella. North Korea's nuclear weapons can no longer be used as the pretext for strengthening the alliances between Japan and the US, and between South Korea and the US on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia. The U.S. and Japanese governments should work together to prevent war, including nuclear war, in this region of the world.

However, the United States is currently strengthening its alliances with South Korea and Japan, the aim being to isolate China and North Korea. The THAAD system should be removed from South Korea. Japan's Abe government is getting on the US bandwagon, making it constitutional to exercise a right to collective self-defense and gutting the Constitution under the security legislation. The Abe government is rushing to turn Japan into a country that wages war. What's more, Japan's stockpile of plutonium, enough to make thousands of nuclear weapons, is another source of concern for the region's peace and security. I would like to strongly condemn the Abe government for these moves.

The Abe government should give up its anti-North Korean policy, which serves Abe's own political interests by crying out about the threat from North Korea. It should cancel all acts and policies aimed at re-invading the Korean Peninsula. If Japan is to join the era of peace, it is essential for it to apologize and pay reparation for its past colonization of Korea, which includes the comfort women issue.

We stand at a crucial moment in world history when a new era of peace can be opened by overcoming confrontation and the threats of war that we have experienced through our history in East Asia.

We hope that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted last year will produce results that will realize a world without nuclear weapons.

Unity and solidarity between the peace-loving forces in South Korea, Japan and the rest of the world will give them the power to realize a new era of peace on the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia.

Friends, let us be main actors in a new history, in the era of peace.

Joseph Gerson
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and
Common Security
U.S.A.

Friends, thank you for the opportunity to return to the World Conference. On my first night here I

had sacred time, almost alone, in the Peace Park. There I was touched by the deepest and silent truths of this A-bombed city. Touched by the Park's current of pain and by Hibakusha testimonies, we become witnesses of the nuclear Hell which must never be repeated. But, we are also re-inspired by the courage of Hibakusha and international comrades and take renewed strength for our campaigning.

Turning to the U.S. movement, I should stress the unprecedented threats to what remains of our democracy. Trump and his coterie are ruthlessly attacking truth, without which democracy cannot survive. The courts are being packed with right wing ideologues. The rule of law, science, and the press, termed the "enemy of the people" are under attack. With his war on immigrants and uncritical support of police, Trump is unleashing white Christian supremacist violence reminiscent of the rise of fascism in the 1930s.

You know about the Pentagon's grand strategy and the Nuclear Posture Review. They are again, preparing for great power wars. Unimaginable sums are being spent for a new generation of first strike nuclear weapons and to replace nuclear triad to intimidate rivals and the world across the 21st century.

In these circumstances, and recognizing that in unity there is strength, intersectional organizing is a movement priority. Slowly we are building issue and constituency integrated movements to oppose nuclear and other military spending, to ensure funding for food, housing, education, and to reverse climate change. Morality and necessity dictate making common cause with immigrants and people of color under attack.

Even as we oppose Trump as the fascist thug he is and protect our election system, we are urging U.S. common security diplomacy with Russia and China: pressing extension of the New START Treaty, preservation of the INF Treaty, withdrawing military bases and demilitarizing U.S.-Chinese competition.

With our Korea Peace Network of more than 100 organizations, which has considerable Korean-American leadership, we urge patience and persistence to fulfill the Singapore communique's promises. With President Moon's inspired diplomacy, we walked Trump back from "fire and fury", winning the Freeze for Freeze agreement as a foundation for "action for action and phased and synchronous diplomacy. We must persist.

With Trump's violation of the U.N. sanctioned P5+1 agreement with Iran, and the Trump/Bolton/Pompeo commitment to regime change in Iran, we are beginning to work with

international allies to preserve the agreement and to prevent a catastrophic regime change war.

Finally, with the Ban Treaty, the international signature campaign, and the coming 2020 NPT Review conference, our movement must help build the international forces needed to surround, isolate and transform the nine nuclear powers. To be successful, the Ban Treaty requires the support of umbrella nations. Gensuikyo is doing its part, as are our European allies. Next week, with IPPNW, I will be lobbying Australian parliamentarians to lobby for the Ban. Our Peace and Planet international network will soon be developing plans for the NPT Review. And we must work to inundate the Powers with the Hibakusha petition signatures.

Friends, there is no higher calling than to work for nuclear weapons abolition, for peace, justice and human survival. Together we must struggle for peace, justice and freedom! No more Hiroshimas! No More Nagasakis! No More War: We will never give up!

Speech/Messages from Japanese Political Parties:

Koike Akira Head of the Secretariat, Japanese Communist Party/ Member of the House of Councillors

Good afternoon. I am Koike Akira of the Japanese Communist Party.

First, I'd like to express my deep sympathy to those who have suffered from the recent severe rainstorm. On July 12, I visited the disaster-hit areas of Higashi-ku and Aki-ku in Hiroshima City and was shocked to see the severity of the damage there. I have urged the government to provide its full support and relief for the disaster areas. I'd like to thank the citizens of Hiroshima for working very hard to make this conference possible despite the hardship they are experiencing now.

I'd also like to extend my warmest greetings of solidarity to you who have come all the way from around the world and all corners of Japan to make this conference a success. I heartily welcome the government representatives. Your attendance is especially encouraging for us. Also, the first-ever participation of the leaders of the All-out Action Committee and of the All Okinawa Coalition has shown that our joint efforts are expanding in various areas in Japan, in addition to the movement to achieve ZERO nuclear power plants.

Over the past year, we have seen major developments toward a nuclear weapons-free world.

A treaty outlawing nuclear weapons for the first time in history was adopted at the UN a year ago. More and more countries are now signing and ratifying this treaty. And in June, the United States and North Korea, longtime enemies to each other, held a historic summit meeting. We warmly welcome this move seeking to achieve peace and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Only a year ago, the whole world was deeply worried that a war might break out at any time. Now the situation has changed completely. Of course, we will not count on only the U.S. and North Korea. To further advance this budding peace process and prevent backsliding, public opinion and people's movements throughout the world calling for peace, a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula, and a world without nuclear weapons should play a crucial role.

Amid this rapidly changing situation, the government of the only atomic bombed country has, more than ever before, an important role to fulfill. As the country which experienced the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan should know better than any other country how inhumane nuclear weapons are. Japan must, both in Northeast Asia and in the rest of the world, play a leading role in the effort to eliminate nuclear weapons.

However, the Abe administration has been opposed to the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty, continuing to turn its back on the demand of Hibakusha and the general public.

How can we change such a government? The key is public opinion and movement.

Now, the Hibakusha international signature drive is increasing beyond the boundaries of political affiliations. Many regions and municipalities one after another join in this signature campaign. At least 322 local assemblies have adopted a resolution calling on the state government to sign and ratify the nuclear weapons ban treaty. This figure accounts for about 20% of all municipalities in Japan. The Japanese Communist Party took part in the UN meetings and other opposition parties have also been urging the Japanese government to be a signatory to the treaty.

In promoting a joint struggle between concerned citizens and opposition parties, the opposition parties should have Japan's participation in the treaty as a common goal. If we succeed in further developing this joint effort, we will certainly be able to open a new path for Japan to fulfill its role as the A-bombed country. I promise that our party will make its utmost effort to achieve this.

Before I became a Diet member, I worked for a hospital in Tokyo, conducting medical checkups for Hibakusha. One day, a woman Hibakusha said to me, "Up until now, I hesitated to have a Hibakusha

medical checkup out of fear of the public eye. As my daughter got married and left our house the other day, I came to feel like receiving a checkup for the first time." I can never forget this. An atomic bomb leaves a scar that can never be wiped away, not only on the body but also deep in the emotions and in life itself. Nuclear weapons cannot coexist with human beings.

Friends, let us share the Hibakusha's aspiration for peace and let us together send a message of peace! Toward the entry into force of the nuclear weapons ban treaty, let us increase the Hibakusha signature drive! Let us advance the joint struggle between citizens and the opposition parties in order to realize a government which will sign the nuclear weapons prohibition treaty!

By calling for these things, I'd like to conclude my speech in solidarity on behalf of the Japanese Communist Party. Let's work together!

Ozawa Ichiro
President, Liberal Party
Member of the House of Representatives

Message

Greetings to the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs.

First, allow me to express my heartfelt condolences to the victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I also extend my sympathy to those who have been suffering from aftereffects of exposure to atomic bomb radiation. I express my deep respect to the Organizing Committee for its persistent efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons.

Since the dawn of history, humankind has produced many great assets of culture and civilization. But at the same time, some of them have brought numerous calamities to humanity.

The worst of those calamities is war and nuclear weapons. The human race can never coexist with nuclear weapons. Affirming the existence of nuclear weapons leads to the annihilation of humankind.

We must make efforts to make the world free of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date.

As the only country to have suffered the nuclear attack, Japan must take a lead in the effort to achieve this goal. It is truly lamentable that the current politics goes against the mission the A-bombed country should fulfil.

Now is time for the government to realize its responsibility as the only A-bombed country and take action which live up to the requirement of history.

The Liberal Party will go hand in hand with you who are present in this World Conference to continue to make every effort to achieve a world without nuclear weapons and nuclear power plants.

Together, let us do our best.

Itokazu Keiko
President, Okinawa Whirlwind
Member of the House of Councillors

Message

I'd like to express my cordial support and greetings of solidarity to the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs being held to achieve a peaceful and just world without nuclear weapons.

Today, 73 years after the atomic bombings and Japan's defeat in the Pacific War, I cannot help but be filled with pleasure at witnessing an increasing possibility of a peaceful, unified and nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. I believe that we must not stop this move toward peace in East Asia.

Okinawans, like the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, have been suffering from the scars of an extremely horrible battle and therefore have a strong desire for peace and against war. During the postwar U.S. occupation, as many as 1,300 nuclear weapons were deployed at the U.S. bases in Okinawa. Okinawans were recently greatly distressed to learn that a catastrophe almost occurred when a nuclear-tipped missile was mistakenly fired from the U.S.-controlled Naha airport.

To this day, Okinawa is forced to shoulder the burden of more than 70% of U.S. military facilities in Japan, but we are not informed of anything about the inside of the bases. The possibility that the U.S. military has been bringing its nuclear weapons into Okinawa cannot be ruled out. The people of Okinawa, like Hiroshima and Nagasaki, know that peacekeeping under the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" or by the use of force is just an illusion. Now is the time to drastically review the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty itself and increase public awareness of the need to eliminate nuclear weapons so as to truly move toward a peaceful world.

Japan, the only atomic bombed country in the world, should play a leading role in the effort to abolish nuclear weapons. In fact, every country has a role to play in further promoting this effort. Unfortunately, the Abe government has not adopted such a policy direction. Rather, it is submissive to the United States, doing completely the opposite to what the Hibakusha have been wishing for. "Human beings and nuclear weapons cannot coexist." This is

the obvious lesson learned—also from the tragic accident in Fukushima in 2011.

Let us continue to work hand-in-hand, not only for the prohibition of nuclear weapons, but also for the elimination of nuclear power generation, in the effort to establish a peaceful world without nuclear weapons. I'd like to express my sincere hope that the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs will be successful.

Okada Katsuya
Member of the House of Representatives

Message

On the occasion of the opening of the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs, I again express my heartfelt condolences for all those who became victims to the atomic bombs. I also express my deep sympathy to those who to this day suffer due to the damage to their physical and mental health.

The circumstances surrounding nuclear weapons are severe. Turning away from the era of President Obama, who called for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons and who even visited Hiroshima, the United States' Trump Administration is pursuing the development of smaller nuclear weapons and new types of nuclear cruise missiles. It has adopted a policy that represents a retrograde step from the broad direction of achieving a world without nuclear weapons. In regard to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the gulf between the nuclear weapon states and the non-nuclear weapon states is growing ever deeper.

Now more than ever, at this critical moment for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, Japan is called upon to wave the flag. But we see no signs of such a stance from the Abe Government, which "highly appreciates" the Trump Administration's nuclear policy. In East Asia all sorts of tactical maneuvers are being played out in relation to the denuclearization of North Korea, but here again, Japan has no diplomatic presence. With an eye to the future beyond the denuclearization of North Korea, Japan should show leadership towards the realization of a world without nuclear weapons by proposing a "North-East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone".

Finally, allow me to wish this World Conference great success and to offer my best wishes to the Organizing Committee and participants.

Determination of Japanese Grass-Roots Movements for a Nuclear Weapon-Free World:

Ichizuka Ayako
Secretary General, Youth Department
All Japan Teachers and Staffs Union
(Zenkyo)

We are the members of Zenkyo Youth Department. In addition to us on the stage now, many more young teachers and staff have come to join this conference from different parts of Japan. We learned so much in the last three days about what we can do for a world without nuclear weapons.

We have a plan to organize an assembly of young teachers and staff here in Hiroshima next February under the theme of peace education.

Nowadays, we often hear from young teachers and staff saying, "We are not exactly sure how to promote peace education." or "My school has a disapproving atmosphere that teaching peace is something we shouldn't do."

Regretting the prewar education which led to sending students to battlefields, Zenkyo has upheld the slogan: "Never shall we send our students to battlefields again." Promoting peace education at school is the starting point of our movement. Yet, we have a sense of crisis that peace education is disappearing from schools.

With concern about such a situation, young teachers and staff members nationwide have started to speak up and take actions. They brought their students to war monuments in local areas and encourage them to meet with and learn from people with war experiences.

For the past few years, the youth department of Hiroshima Zenkyo also has organized peace tours, in which they serve as tour guides. In order to be good guides, they make visits to war monuments and study the history of war and the A-bombing of Hiroshima. They want to be able to tell about the tragedy of war to children in their own words.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) emphasizes the importance of peace education. Now that the treaty came into existence, we are required to think what we should inherit to children.

Next February, we will assemble in Hiroshima again with our colleagues coming from all over Japan. Here in Hiroshima, we will learn the history of war, the damage of the atomic bombing, and people's movement for a world free of nuclear weapons, so that we can bring home the significance of peace education. We want to make

this meeting an opportunity for each participant to think and take a step forward to promote peace education at school.

We join you in your endeavor to achieve a peaceful, nuclear weapon-free and just world.

High School Students of Tokachi Area, Hokkaido Delegation

Tokumura Maya: Having learned about the tragedy in World War II at school, in the class of politics and economics, I got interested in the World Conference. I used to think that we were at peace in Japan, but I have realized that it was peace only in a tiny bubble. Even now, there are endless wars and conflicts in many countries. I have applied to participate in this meeting, in the hope that our voice could realize world peace.

Kajiura Kota: All I have learned at primary school about the atomic bombing was that "The A-bomb was dropped on Japan". I did not have any opportunities to learn about the thoughts of A-bomb survivors or their tragic stories. If this situation does not change, I am afraid, the voices of A-bomb survivors will not be passed down from generation to generation. I have made up my mind to participate in this World Conference because I want to make sure that the baton for peace will be handed down to the next generation.

Hojo Sayuki: I learned at civics class in my junior high school that technologies of nuclear power plants are the same as those of nuclear weapons, and those technologies are spread to many other countries from our country, Japan. I thought then that it was maybe against the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) adopted long before. Then I studied at senior high school about the atomic bombing damage and I was convinced that spreading the technology of nuclear weapons to the world must not be allowed and I decided to participate in this World Conference to change our country with our hands.

Tokumura, Kajiura and Hojo: Our voices can change the world. Three of us produced a petition to raise fund to send delegates to the World Conference against A&H Bombs. We distributed this petition and called for generous donations in our local communities. We have learned that some countries decided to abandon nuclear weapons because they took seriously the testimonies of the A-bomb survivors as a serious warning. We also conducted a signature campaign drive for the elimination of nuclear weapons in the hope that our voices, however weak they are, can change the world. However, some people passed by without listening to whatever we seriously speak, and other

people turned their back on us saying, "We do not like what you are doing!" Honesty, we were really discouraged and demotivated, and felt very sad.

We want to ask them again. "Would it be all right if you have another atomic bombing in this country?" Despite being the only A-bombed nation, many Japanese look indifferent to this problem.

Before delivering any messages to other nations, we should make sure that all of us in Japan are committed to a nuclear-free world. In this respect, the International Meeting this year was very meaningful for us.

What we can do now is to tell about the horrors of nuclear war to our families and friends, and to keep on telling so that they will not forget. I promise you that young generation like us will take the initiative and pass the baton on to the next generation.

Proposal for Action:

Yasui Masakazu Japan Council against A and H Bombs (Gensuikyo)

Thank you all for your participation and contribution to the discussion over the three days of this World Conference.

First, allow me to express my thanks and affirm solidarity with the representatives of government organizations who attended this conference - from Ireland, Austria, Venezuela, Mexico and Cuba; with the representatives of the global antinuclear and peace movements from the Asia-Pacific, Europe, America, the Middle East and Africa; with heads of states and leaders of countries who sent messages; with the mayors of Hiroshima and other local municipalities and representatives of political parties and citizens' groups who attended the conference or sent messages; and with the Hibakusha from Japan and overseas who participated in this conference.

I thank from the bottom of my heart the people of Hiroshima who, amidst this extreme heat, supported the conference over its five days, while at the same time helping the recovery efforts from the devastation caused by the recent storms. I also would like to thank the interpreters and all those involved in the preparations.

This year's World Conference called for a grand movement to bring into effect the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and bring to fruition demands for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Public opinion and people's movements throughout the world, through

cooperation between governments and civil society, will overcome the resistance of the forces clinging to nuclear weapons and open a sure path to a “World without Nuclear Weapons”.

Also, for the first time, Mr. Fukuyama Shingo, Co-Chair of the All-Out Action Committee to Stop the War and Scrapping of Article 9 participated in this conference, demonstrating that Japan’s peace and democracy movements are standing on a new stage and moving surely from the era of schism to an era of united front. The future lies in cooperation in our shared struggle. Let us respond to the call and spread the common circle to every corner of Japan.

Yesterday’s workshops, which included the representatives of governments, responded to the Declaration of the International Meeting with a lively discussion about various subjects, including the International Signature Campaign for the Appeal of the Hibakusha, support for and solidarity with the Hibakusha, solidarity with the people of Okinawa, peace and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and Asia, preventing proposed changes to Article 9 of the Constitution, reducing nuclear power to zero, and military spending and livelihoods. Let us now breathe life into the fruits of these meetings by putting them into practice.

Friends, what will be decisive for progress towards total elimination of nuclear weapons will be to create a majority within the nuclear weapons states and their allies in favor of the nuclear weapons ban treaty and, through the power of public opinion and people’s movements, to force

the governments of these countries to sign and ratify the treaty. The key to this is the sovereign will of the citizens of each country. Never before has the role of the International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign been so important as it aims to collect signatures from hundreds of millions of people throughout the world.

Above all, let us make great progress in this movement within Japan. Nihon Hidankyo (Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations) resolved to collect the signatures of half the Japanese population by 2020. Let us make the submission of signatures to the UN General Assembly in autumn a success, and launch ourselves into the campaign towards next spring’s Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference.

The Japanese movement has an international responsibility to make the Japanese Government play its proper role, as a government bound by the Article 9 peace clause of its Constitution and the government of the only country to have suffered the nuclear attack. We must demand that the Japanese Government get out of the nuclear umbrella and sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). Let us get all municipalities to adopt resolutions demanding that the Japanese Government support the Treaty. Let us develop public opinion, which is the key to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and the establishment of a peace regime.



Appeal from Hiroshima

Our light now is the ban treaty. To all in this hall and all listening around the world, I repeat those words that I heard called to me in the ruins of Hiroshima: "Don't give up! Keep pushing! See the light? Crawl towards it."

– From speech delivered by Setsuko Thurlow, Hibakusha of Hiroshima, at the Nobel Peace Prize awards ceremony, December 10, 2017

Seventy-three years have passed since an atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. A very serious situation persists in the rain disaster-hit areas. We express our deepest condolences for those who were killed in the disaster and our sympathy to the people in the affected areas. We also express our deep gratitude to all who have worked hard to make the holding of the World Conference against A and H Bombs possible while devoting their energies to helping the disaster-affected people rebuild their communities and living conditions in the scorching heat in Hiroshima and other areas.

Today, exactly 73 years ago, the city of Hiroshima was turned into an inferno by a US nuclear attack. We are observing this day at a time when the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) is being signed and ratified by countries worldwide. In June, the United States and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea held a summit, leading to a historic first step towards denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula and establishing a peace system in Northeast Asia.

But the Japanese government of Prime Minister Abe Shinzo, which heavily relies on the US "nuclear umbrella", not only turns its back on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons but is also obsessed with turning Japan into a country that wages war.

The current international developments are taking place thanks to a rise in global public awareness and movements working against nuclear weapons and for peace. We believe that the power to achieve the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula lies in rising public awareness and global movements. If we defeat the "nuclear deterrence" theory that insists that nuclear weapons are necessary for security and if the cooperation between civil society movements and national governments further develops to work for a "world without nuclear weapons", a bright future will be possible.

Let us develop a grand movement to achieve the earliest possible entry into force of the TPNW and open the way toward a "world without nuclear weapons" as we prepare to observe the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombings in 2020. Let us transform the Northeast Asian region, where the Olympic Games are held in Tokyo and Beijing in succession, into a region from where we can launch messages for peace to the rest of the world.

We will promote the drive to collect hundreds of millions of signatures by 2020 in support of the Hibakusha Appeal in cooperation with local government heads and local assembly members, involving municipalities and local communities. Let us strongly urge the Japanese government to pull out from under the US “nuclear umbrella” and participate in the TPNW. Let us drastically strengthen the effort to have local assemblies adopt declarations calling on the government to sign and ratify the TPNW. Let us press the government to abrogate the secret nuclear arrangements with the United States, strictly observe the Three Non-nuclear Principles (not to possess, manufacture or allow nuclear weapons to be brought into Japan), and establish them as law.

Let us make the damage and aftereffects of the atomic bombings known widely and expose the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. Let us organize “A-bomb exhibitions” and assemblies for the Hibakusha to talk about their horrifying experience during and after the A-bombings in all municipalities and local communities. Let us demand a far-reaching improvement of the A-bomb disease recognition system and the establishment of state compensation for the Hibakusha, and further strengthen activities for the relief of and solidarity with them.

Let us further develop the drive to collect 30 million signatures and other activities to prevent Article 9 of the Constitution from being adversely amended and get the War Laws repealed. In Okinawa, there will be crucial political battles, including the gubernatorial election in autumn. Let us fight in firm solidarity with “All Okinawa” in defense of the dignity of Okinawans to stop the construction of a new US base in the Henoko district of Nago City and dismantle the US Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Let us oppose the strengthening of the Japan-US military alliance.

Let us oppose putting nuclear power plants back online and demand a shift in energy policy away from nuclear power to one that increases reliance on renewable energy sources. Let us oppose the destruction of stable jobs and people’s livelihood, the increase in poverty and widening income gaps, and increase the movement demanding cuts in military expenditure to protect welfare services and education. Let us oppose all forms of discrimination and realize gender equality.

Let us link together all these movements and use the power of cooperation between the citizens’ movements and opposition parties to force the Abe government to step down and create a government that truly represents the atom-bombed country.

New cooperation is growing with the Peace March, which has marked its 60th anniversary. Now is the time to raise the level of nationwide cooperation to a new stage. Let us advance hand in hand with the Hibakusha and with young people to open a bright future.

No More Hiroshimas, No More Nagasakis, No More Hibakusha, No More War.

2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs – Nagasaki

International Forum: “For the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons -- Dialogue between Governments & NGOs”

(August 8)



Greetings from Nagasaki Mayor:

Taue Tomihisa

Mayor of Nagasaki City

On behalf of the citizens of Nagasaki, I would like to greet the 2018 World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs.

Let me first express my deep respects for your continued and tireless endeavor for world peace and abolition of nuclear weapons.

Nagasaki will observe the 73rd anniversary day of atomic bombing tomorrow. A single atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki turned the city into hell instantly. Strong blast, heat rays and radiations assaulted mercilessly the people of Nagasaki. 74,000 precious human lives were taken, and 75,000 people were injured. Even today a large number of survivors are suffering from the aftereffects of radiation exposure.

The world free of nuclear weapons is an ardent wish and mission of the A-bombed Nagasaki.

There is a growing ever public attention on the question of peace as the world is focused on the events related to the abolition of nuclear weapons, including the adoption of the Treaty on the

Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons a year ago, Nobel Peace Prize given to ICAN, North-South Korean Summit and US-North Korean Summit. It is an important task for us to promote this momentum so that it will become an irresistible tide towards the goal of abolition of nuclear weapons. For this, just like the call of civil society for a nuclear weapon-free world supported the adoption of the TPNW, we have to unite ourselves and work even harder and tenaciously to make our voice heard.

I understand that this World Conference against A & H Bombs shares this idea as it does focus on the solidarity and cooperation among civil societies in the East Asian region. I do hope that every participant in this meeting share the wish for peace and commitment to spread both domestically and internationally the commitment to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Nagasaki will continue to advance towards peace until the day when the earth will be set completely free of nuclear weapons, with the support of like-minded people like you.

Let me conclude my greetings by wishing you a grand success of the 2018 World Conference as well as good health and success to each participant. Thank you very much.

Panelists Presentations:

Thomas Hajnoczi
Director for Disarmament, Arms Control
and Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry
for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs
Austria

(Please see page 77)

Jamie Walsh
Deputy Director, Disarmament & Non-
Proliferation, Department of Foreign
Affairs & Trade
Ireland

(Please see page 79)

Joseph Gerson
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and
Common Security
U.S.A.

(Please see page 24)

Lee Jun Kyu
Researcher, Center for Peace Research
and Education of KYOREH HANA
R.O.K.

I will try not to repeat things that have already been said by other delegates from South Korea at the International Meeting and other programs of the World Conference. The international situation we are now facing around the Korean Peninsula presents three features that should draw our attention. The first is that the current situation may have resulted from the combination of two core factors. One of these factors is a change in the North Korean state strategy. It is clear that North Korea has decided to re-orient its national policy towards the construction of the national economy. The other factor is the policy pursued steadily by the South Korean Moon Jae-in government since it was brought to power by the citizens' candle revolution. In other words, the current favorable situation for dialogue and negotiation has been brought about by the improving South-North relationship that has created a breakthrough in the deadlock and tension prevailing on the Korean Peninsula and in East Asia, and which is sustaining the present momentum for dialogue.

The unchanged commitment of President Moon Jae-in to a "resolution of the problem on the basis of peace principles", the U.N. resolution on the

"Olympic Truce", the announcement of a reduction and postponement of South Korean-U.S. joint military exercises, Kim Jong Un's "New Year Statement" in response to that announcement, the Olympic Games in PyeongChang, and South-North Summit meetings, etc. testify to that momentum. When U.S. President Trump threw the world into confusion at the end of May by threatening to cancel the summit meeting with North Korea, both North and South Korean leaders held a blitz meeting in Panmunjom to overcome the crisis.

The second feature is the content of the Panmunjom Declaration and the Singapore Joint Statement. The former refers to the peace system and complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, but more importantly, in its preamble, the two heads of state declared that there will be no more wars on the Korean Peninsula and a new era of peace has opened. This can be taken as a virtual declaration of ending the war by these two countries.

In my view, the keyword in the Singapore Statement may be the "new North Korea-US. relations". The Statement recognized that "new relations between North Korea and the U.S. will contribute to peace and prosperity of the Korean Peninsula" and that "building mutual confidence will promote denuclearization of the Peninsula".

This particular understanding of the situation was reflected in the way the statement is structured. The text first mentions the establishment of new relations, then the peace system on the Korean Peninsula, followed by denuclearization. In particular, President Trump in the interview held after the summit meeting mentioned that "28 million people live in Seoul located only 30 miles from the armistice line" and said that "a war should not recur on the Korean Peninsula". Personally, I had never before heard a U.S. President in office make such comments. In this sense, Trump's statements indeed bear special significance.

The third feature is the existence of critical opinions about the series of new developments in the situation since the beginning of this year, opinions especially apparent in the mainstream media as well as among a majority of experts and intellectuals in the United States.

However, I think we should also look at the results of a couple of opinion polls made in the U.S. The CNN survey (published on June 19) showed that 52% of respondents said they were satisfied with the outcome of the summit meeting, against 36% who said they were not satisfied. As many as 82% of those who support the Republican Party and 28% of Democratic Party supporters responded that they were happy with the outcome of the meeting. The Associated Press opinion survey (published on June 21) revealed that as much as 55% of the

respondents said they would support President Trump's policy towards North Korea, which is a 13% increase from the previous survey made last March.

This means that public opinion within the U.S. is divided by an important gap in understanding between the mainstream media and opinion leaders on the one hand and the general public on the other. It can also be said that the American public looks at the Kim-Trump summit meeting through a partisan or anti-Trump prism.

Of course, there are criticisms voiced by the conservative forces, especially in the U.S., Japan and South Korea, for the lack of concrete outcomes from the Singapore meeting. In particular, they complain about the absence of any reference to CVID (complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization) and the vagueness about the time frame of denuclearization. Some claim that the cancellation of South Korea-U.S. joint military exercises was too big a concession. However, in South Korea, the majority opinion considers that the Singapore meeting was disappointing because it failed to declare that the war was over.

For, in South Korea, there were high expectations that President Moon would join the two heads of state in Singapore to declare together the end of the war and put an end to the "state of war" on the Korean Peninsula once and for all. To declare that the war has ended would be merely a political act, meaning that the concerned parties are ready to engage in a dialogue towards peace. However, the public in the U.S. attributed too much importance for U.S. domestic politics. In addition, some warned that the declaration of the end of the war would help the North Korea to obtain what it wishes to achieve.

The "CVID" and the declaration of the end of the war will be the major issues to be addressed in the coming period, as was seen in U.S. State Secretary Pompeo's visit to North Korea and his meeting with Kim Young-chul, Vice-President of the North Korean Workers' Party.

The "CVID" was originally a made-up term, reflecting the neo-conservative idea in the U.S. under the Bush Administration. If you consider the statements made by President Trump and his Secretary of State Pompeo, you can see the change in the attitude of the Trump Administration. Neither Trump nor Pompeo is attached to the term CVID. However, the administration of Trump remains concerned about the upcoming interim election and domestic public opinion in general and may be demanding North Korean denuclearization measures that are far more daring than the current freeze standards in the Front Loading or "preemptive initial measure".

However, for North Korea, it is not acceptable to proceed unconditionally with serious denuclearization measures in a situation where the declaration of the end of the war is not even an option. North Korea has always been asserting that its nuclear armaments are to ensure the security of the present regime and to deter the U.S. from using nuclear weapons. After all, the problem is about setting the track of peace talks in line with the track of denuclearization.

Complex negotiations are likely to continue for a long time. I believe that the right answer at the end of the day will be, as is stipulated in the Singapore Statement, to continue the dialogue and negotiations in parallel with the process of building mutual confidence. In that particular process, it is important to maintain the current freeze. This means that while advancing the peace process on the Korean Peninsula, including the end of the war declaration, the conclusion of a peace treaty and the normalization of North Korea-U.S. relations, the dynamic of the process should be used to push for denuclearization. Denuclearization will advance only if it is implemented gradually and simultaneously with other relevant measures.

Finally, I would like to indicate a few things we should not overlook when we address the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula. The first is the historical background of the issue. The confrontation between North Korea and the U.S. began in the context of the division of the Korean Peninsula, the Korean War and the Cold War in East Asia. There is a structure of long and deep defiance that separates the two countries. For example, North Korea considers itself as a country surrounded by the "nuclear alliance" formed by the U.S., Japan and South Korea. Indeed, during the Cold War period, South Korea and Okinawa constituted the largest forward base in the Asia-Pacific region where U.S. nuclear weapons were deployed. And even though the Cold War structure has disintegrated worldwide, this arrangement in East Asia was left unchanged, with the anti-North Korea nuclear alliance being strengthened even more. Thus, after the end of the Cold War, North Korea found itself more isolated than before, with the existing arrangement causing even more serious distress.

Another thing is the obvious contradiction inherent in North Korean international politics regarding nuclear weapons. The P5 nuclear cartel is the primary cause of the unfair non-proliferation regime. Moreover, serving their own egoistic interests, the P5 countries are building up virtual military alliances with Pakistan, India or Israel and cooperating with them in the field of nuclear development. The Nuclear Posture Review,

published in February 2018, has shown that the U.S. hunger for nuclear hegemony is growing. Of course, these problems cannot justify North Korea's nuclear armament. However, we must not overlook the contradictory structure that might lead a small and vulnerable country to fall to the lure of the nuclear armament option as a means to secure its survival. This is why, I believe, it is crucial that we in the anti-nuclear and peace movements, having achieved a historic success by realizing the nuclear ban treaty, must continue to surround and overwhelm nuclear-armed countries with waves of mounting public opinion in favor of the ban and elimination of nuclear weapons.

Tsuchida Yayoi
Assistant General Secretary
Japan Council against A and H Bombs
(Gensuikyō)

At last year's World Conference, we shared our joy over the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in the conviction that the efforts of the Japanese anti-nuclear movement had been rewarded. So, in what direction is the world moving one year since then?

At the end of April this year I participated in the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference. There the nuclear weapon states, with the United States at the front, were saying that now is not the time for disarmament and that if they disarm the world will become a more dangerous place. It was a shock to think that nothing had changed, despite the TPNW, and that the prospects for the 2020 NPT Review Conference were bleak.

The US Nuclear Posture Review articulates a dangerous policy, referring to nuclear weapons that can actually be used and suggesting that nuclear weapons could be used in response to attacks by conventional weapons. When cornered by the Hibakusha in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Japanese Government coolly responded that it will not join the TPNW. Now that the Treaty is in place, there is fierce conflict between those who want to hold onto their nuclear weapons and those who want to eliminate them.

In this context, we discovered something in our discussions with the representatives of nuclear weapon states and countries under their nuclear umbrella. Although they say all sorts of things, they do not deny that the goal is the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, that nuclear weapons must never again be used, and that nuclear weapons are inhumane weapons. Perhaps it is more accurate to say that they are unable to deny this. It is fair to

say that this change was created through the efforts of governments and civil society leading from the Humanitarian Initiative on nuclear weapons to the adoption of the TPNW. The fierce resistance of the nuclear weapon states within the NPT is evidence that they feel cornered. The movement aiming for a "world without nuclear weapons" has entered a new level.

We must win in this conflict and make progress towards the realization of a world without nuclear weapons. On this point, we are encouraged that many non-nuclear weapon states are not yielding, that they are working towards bringing into force the TPNW and that, in the lead up to the 2020 NPT Review Conference, they are pressing for the implementation of the obligations and promises under Article 6. I believe the participation in this World Conference by Ambassador Thomas Hajnoczi of Austria and Mr. Jamie Walsh of Ireland is a manifestation of this determination.

I believe that there are now circumstances that are supporting us and opening up new possibilities.

First, the TPNW is a great source of strength. Ambassador Hajnoczi said in Hiroshima that the Treaty has become a real presence within the disarmament and non-proliferation regime. I believe this is highly significant.

For example, we held negotiations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before the first anniversary of the adoption of the TPNW. There the head of the Arms Control Disarmament Division, referring to the International Court of Justice's 1996 advisory opinion, said, "When the very survival of a state is at stake, it can't be helped if nuclear weapons are used." We were outraged and protested fiercely at this statement, made even though they claim that their aim is a world without nuclear weapons and that they understand very well the inhumanity of nuclear weapons. The Treaty sucks the air out of such thinking by banning the use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances. Even though it has not yet come into effect, it strengthens that moral norm. As the country that was attacked with nuclear weapons, surely we should abide by that norm.

Second, with the North-South dialogue and the meeting between the Heads of State of the United States and North Korea, a dramatic situation is developing surrounding peace and denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Last year people were concerned that there might even be a war between North Korea and the US. Most citizens welcome this transformation. The Japanese Government dribbles on endlessly about the North Korean threat, offering nothing but force in response and justifying its nuclear policy. Now, when the shadow of the North Korean threat is fading, what are the

threats to Japanese citizens? What is deterrence? Can the peace and safety of citizens be protected with nuclear weapons? What is Japan's role? This is the perfect opportunity to raise these questions with the Japanese public, generate a discussion, and change public opinion.

Third is the unprecedented cooperation that is spreading in Japan. The All-Out Action Committee that started in 2014 to oppose laws that would turn Japan into a war-fighting nation subsequently developed into a joint movement between civil society and opposition parties aiming to collect 30 million signatures opposing revision of Article 9 of the Constitution. This joint approach is also being taken by the zero nuclear energy movement and the all-Okinawa movement against construction of a new US military base. So we are now in an era of cooperation.

On August 4 at the Opening Plenary, Fukuyama Shingo, Co-chair of the All-Out Action Committee to Stop the War and Scrapping of Article 9, participated in the World Conference for the first time. He said, "The Japanese movement for peace and democracy has now moved from an era of division to a new era of joint action. We now stand on a new stage. To stop the political rush of Abe's LDP-Komeito government and to make an era where nuclear disarmament, support of the Hibakusha, an end to nuclear power generation, preservation of Article 9, prevention of the construction of the new base in Okinawa, peace and democracy will all prevail, all of us citizens, groups and opposition parties have to struggle in cooperation and solidarity. If we stay split, we will

not be able to defeat the Abe government. Our future will be found only in cooperation and joint struggle."

At the level of political parties, on August 6 we were greatly encouraged by the announcement by the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan (the largest opposition party) that it supported the TPNW; and in his speech, Akira Koike of the Japanese Communist Party mentioned that, on top of the 30 million signature campaign opposing revision to Article 9 of the Constitution, there are moves to add signing and ratification of the Treaty to the list of issues on which civil society and opposition parties are cooperating.

There has also been a big change in the international Hibakusha signature campaign. In support of this campaign, 46 groups have rallied together to form a committee to promote the collection of signatures. In over half of Japan's 47 prefectures a wide range of groups, including governors and mayors, have formed committees to promote signature collection. Over 1,100 heads of municipalities have signed. So far over 8 million signatures have been collected. This is more than ever before. Motions have been passed by 322 local councils to send letters to the national government demanding that it sign and ratify the Treaty.

No matter how stubbornly the nuclear weapon states and the Abe Government cling to nuclear weapons, we are in the majority.

Let us make the most of these circumstances and play our role as civil society so as to translate the prohibition and elimination of nuclear weapons into reality.



2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs: Nagasaki Day Rally (August 9)



Greetings of Solidarity:

Umekawa Misano
Executive Board Member
Japan SEINENDAN Council

I am Umekawa Misano, an Executive Board Member of Japan SEINENDAN Council. I belong to the Social Department that works daily on different issues, including peace movement and territorial issues, trying to build a nationwide movement. It is my honor to be here today.

After the successful Hiroshima Conference, the World Conference has brought us here to Nagasaki. I would like to express my sincere respects to all of the delegates who have gathered in the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs - Nagasaki, coming from different parts of Japan and from around the world, for working on daily basis to realize a genuinely peaceful society without nuclear weapons. On behalf of all local Seinendans around Japan, I wish to extend our greetings of solidarity to you.

Seinendan is made up of groups of young workers and students, mainly in their 20s and 30s, who are active in rural areas, willing to build better and more dynamic communities through a variety of events, including festivals, sports and cultural activities and peace works.

After the end of WWII, many young returned home only to find their home towns and villages devastated by war. They reassembled to be united to restore Seinendan in their home towns and began to rebuild their communities, resolved to re-establish peace and to never take up guns again. Their resolve has been passed down through generations as the basic spirit of Seinendan.

War is the most atrocious deed in the history of mankind, because it not only makes people kill each other but also breaks the ties between families, friends and loved ones. We learned this from the Hibakusha who have struggled to survive and stay strong. By working with the Hibakusha, we learned the importance of preventing war at any cost. Many are still living with scars, pains, and sufferings from the A-bombing. Now that the generation who went through the atomic bombing and WWII are aged, it

is a task for us, young people, not to let their experiences be forgotten and to keep reminding and mobilizing ourselves in solidarity with many others to achieve the wishes and determination of the Hibakusha embodied in their calls: “No more Hibakusha,” and “Do not let emerge the prewar era again”.

Seinendan has joined many other organizations and individuals to support the “Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign”, and we are collecting the petitions. This September, we are organizing a Peace Rally in Okinawa, and we will launch a signature campaign in Naha City with the cooperation of local Hibakusha. What we can do may be small but still, we with Seinendan, are determined to continue to multiply learning and exchanging with each other so that we can advance together with you in the movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons until we achieve a peaceful society.

In closing, I would like to express our sincere wish that this Conference will be a step forward towards a genuinely peaceful society free of nuclear weapons and war. Friends, let us work together.

Greetings on Behalf of the Hibakusha:

Kido Sueichi Secretary General, Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo)

I am Kido Sueichi, Secretary General of Nihon Hidankyo. I thank for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Hibakusha.

One year has passed since the last World Conference, and the world is moving forward slowly but steadily to the elimination of nuclear weapons especially after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW).

Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to ICAN which contributed to the adoption of the TPNW. It was a blessing for us all.

Despite the pressure from nuclear possessing states, there are campaigns to call on governments to sign and ratify the TPNW in many countries, including Japan, the US and other nuclear possessing states. We have no reason to be pessimistic about 60 signing states and 14 ratifying states.

The “Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons” has widely spread across Japan and overseas. Over 8.7 million signatures have been collected as of the end of July. This is another 3.6 million signatures in addition to the 5.15 million which were submitted

to the United Nations last October. We are almost reaching 10 million signatures.

The Inter-Korean Summit and the North Korea-US Summit taught us that state leaders’ decisions have the power to change the international state of affairs. It was an epoch-making event.

Now, once again, let me recall what the atomic-bombing meant for us.

Two atomic bombs dropped over Hiroshima and Nagasaki instantly destroyed these cities and took millions of lives; men and women, young and old, combatants and civilians, and all the people of different nationalities before they realized what was happening. Some of them are still missing or lack of information. Sufferings still continue today. Most importantly, atomic bombing was a murder committed by the decision of a handful men. Atomic bomb is a weapon of the devil whose only aim was destruction and killing and cannot coexist with humans.

August 1945, humans entered a new era. It is a nuclear age where they were confronted with an alternative, to let nuclear weapons destroy us or to eliminate these weapons to protect ourselves and the blue earth.

During 7 years of occupation, nuclear damage and sufferings were covered up. Any attempts to rescue the sufferers, to investigate into the damage or to give testimonies were obstructed and oppressed. The Hibakusha had been abandoned for the 12 years after the bombing when rescue and support were most needed.

August 10, 1956, the Hibakusha formed Nihon Hidankyo here in Nagasaki, pledging to “save ourselves as well as the crisis of mankind through our own experiences” as the greetings to the world.

Sixty-two years since then, Hidankyo has kept this pledge, maintained the unity, testified about the realities of exposure to radiation, conducted solid investigation and studies, worked hard for elaborating demands and struggled for their realization. We have been calling for “No More Hibakusha”, “No more nuclear war” and “Abolish nuclear weapons”. Anyone else must go through and suffer what we experienced.

The third nuclear war has been prevented so far. It is the fruit the Hibakusha and the world citizens earned together and so is the adoption of nuclear weapon ban treaty.

The “state compensation to A-bombing sufferers” has been denied by the successive governments using the logic that sacrifice of war should be accepted equally by the population. They have never offered their apologies or compensation, not only to A-bomb sufferers but also to the victims of air strikes and Okinawa battle. Why, under the Japanese Constitution, would the Japanese people

have to accept the damage of a war fought under Meiji Constitution? I cannot understand it. We demand the establishment of a mechanism to break through such logic of acceptance of sacrifice in order to refuse the use of nuclear weapons in war and indeed not to repeat any war.

But we already have such a mechanism meant not to repeat war. It is in our hands: Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution. Friends, let us preserve and make a good use of the Article 9.

Prime Minister Abe opposes the TPNWN and continues to refuse signing and ratifying it. Hibakusha are angered and outraged at him. Mr. Abe, do you intend to abandon Hibakusha again? The people of Japan are anxious and outraged at your attempt to revise the Article 9 and create “a country to engage a war”.

“Mr. Abe, What country’s Prime Minister are you?” As Prime Minister of Japan, you have the obligation to protect humans from nuclear damage and sufferings as the Prime Minister of only A-bombed country. You also have the obligation to comply with the Japanese Constitution.

In concluding my speech, I wish that the Japanese government will stand front and firm to protect the lives and security of people of the world. I also wish the great success of the International Hibakusha Signature Campaign.

Kim Seong Un
Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association
R.O.K.

(Please see page 19)

Special Program: 73 Years since
Nagasaki - Voices from Nagasaki:

Otsuka Kazutoshi
Hibakusha of Nagasaki/ Nagasaki
A-Bomb Survivors’ Council

Testimony of the Atomic Bombing

Hello, dear friends from Japan and all around the world committed to making “a world free of nuclear weapons.” My name is Otsuka Kazutoshi. I suffered from the A-bombing when I was a 10-year-old student at a primary school located about 3 km from ground zero.

I am very sad that we do not have Taniguchi Sumiteru with us in this hall any longer. Holding up the picture of his back burnt crimson, he used to make this soulful cry: “Please don’t look away from my back. We Hibakusha have abominable scars

wrought by the atomic bomb on our bodies. Humans and nuclear weapons cannot coexist. The only way to ensure that nuclear weapons will never be used again is to eliminate all nuclear weapons.”

Three years ago, he wrote a message entitled “My will”: It reads:

“Burnt on my back, I was unable to move, but had to stay lying on my stomach for one year and 9 months. The flesh of my chest was rotten due to bedsores. You could see my heart throbbing between my ribs. In pain and agony I resented war, the atomic bomb and adult people.

“But even though I was in pain and agony and even though I wished I would die, I was still alive as a human, while many other people had been killed by the atom bomb.

“Even if my grudge were dispelled, those murdered by the atomic bomb would not come back. Nor would my body revert to normal. What should I do? I steeled myself to engage myself in activities to ensure that there will be no more Hibakusha. It was a mission for those were given their lives then”
(Kept alive, I leave my will – 70th year of suffering from the bomb, pp. 246-251).

For the Nagasaki Hibakusha, August 9, 73 years ago was a starting point of the suffering from the A-bombing, as well as the agonies of living on. Just a single bomb killed some 74,000 people, injured another 75,000, and remains active in the bodies of the Hibakusha, thus tormenting them until they die.

On that day when I was caught by the explosion, I and a close friend of mine had just climbed a fence of the school to catch cicadas. At the moment when I heard my friend saying, “a cicada flew towards you”, there was a flash like lightening, and a shock like an earth tremor. I was blown away in the yellowish blast waves and fell senseless.

When I came to myself, I was covered by the ruins of a destroyed house and had burns on my legs from knees to ankles, though they were not so badly damaged that I was unable to walk. My house near the school was destroyed, yet my mother, elder sister and younger brother all managed to get into a shelter and were unscathed. Then, fire spread. We desperately fled to a cemetery in the hills. It was so horrifying to see the town where we used to live burning that I was unable to sleep a minute. I just waited for the dawn.

The time when I felt relieved and joyous that I had not died quickly passed. Members of my family who had not even been injured began to die one after another. In the back of our minds we wondered in fear, who would be next, or who would be preyed on by the A-bomb.

My younger brother, whom I had led by the hand to the cemetery on that day, died in the 25th year after the bombing after contracting a weird

disease called cancrum nasi. His nose and lungs were rotten and in 10 days he died of asphyxia. In response to the question of whether his death was an after-effect of the A-bombing, his doctor said, "Of the diseases of the Hibakusha, nothing can be affirmed as having nothing to do with the effect of the bomb. But, to our shame as doctors, we do not know the cause of it and still less the remedy for it. I am sorry." His wife who attended on him, and who was also a Hibakusha, soon followed him. She died of pancreatic cancer.

My elder sister married another Hibakusha and their child died of aplastic anemia and malignant lymphocytic sarcoma. Newspaper reports said, "Second generation Hibakusha died of A-bomb disease symptoms", "The A-bomb claims the life of the next generation". This first case of the death of a second generation Hibakusha in Nagasaki caused widespread shock. The doctor of the University of Nagasaki who held the autopsy said that, since the parents were both Hibakusha, the child was considered vulnerable to cancer. This happened 26 years after my sister was exposed to the A-bombing. By now I have lost three second generation Hibakusha relatives.

In the 28th year, my mother died. In the post-war years, the Hibakusha were left destitute. My mother went out for day labor, without any lunch, to support our livelihood. She contracted breast cancer, kidney cancer and then a carcinoma. It was only when her body was autopsied at the A-bomb Hospital that she finally benefitted from a meticulous medical check. It was the first and last time for her. My father had been killed in action at the age of 38 at the Battle of Iwojima, before the Battle of Okinawa took place. His ashes did not come back home, nor do I have any memory of his funeral. War means that those in power make humans disposable.

I have survived thanks to a nitroglycerin spray which I carry in my pocket in case of a sudden heart attack and an inhaled drug to alleviate breathing trouble from lung obstruction. I also keep another set at my bedside. I will never forgive war or the atomic bomb. I cannot easily accept my death until such inhuman weapons are eliminated from the earth. So believing, I have engaged in telling my stories of the suffering from the A-bomb.

During this one year since the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, the movement for "a world without nuclear weapons" has made historic progress. The Abe Government, even though it is the government of the country bombed with atomic weapons in war, refuses to participate in the TPNW and is running counter to Article 9 of the Constitution, as well as the course of history, by clinging to the "nuclear deterrence"

doctrine. It is of vital importance to press for a change in this attitude.

The Hibakusha will use all the time left of our lives, working hand-in-hand with second- and third-generation Hibakusha, to bear witness to the damage caused by the atomic bombings, and help build momentum in the signature campaign in support of the "Hibakusha Appeal".

Let us together, dear friends, move forward toward achieving "a world without nuclear weapons" to fulfill the desire of the Hibakusha, and, in fact, of the whole of humanity.

Action for a World without Nuclear Weapons - Speeches by Overseas Delegates:

Oleg Bodrov
Public Council of the South Coast of the Gulf of Finland/ Film director
Russia

Cold Nuclear War in the Baltic Sea and Mobilization of the Anti-War Community

Dear participants of the conference! Today I'm here with you not only to bow my head in memory of the victims of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Fukushima. I am here to unite our efforts against the expansion of military and so-called peaceful atomic technologies.

Unfortunately, Japanese historical lessons of using "military" and "peaceful" nuclear energy are not learned in many parts of our planet.

I am from the Eastern part of the Baltic Sea region, close to St. Petersburg, Russia. Through the Baltic Sea, there is a line of confrontation between Russia and NATO.

Here the military exercises of NATO and Russia are developing rapidly and steadily. Tens of thousands of soldiers from both sides take part in them. During the exercises, the use of nuclear weapons is simulated.

The Russian government has published conditions under which Russia will be the first to use nuclear weapons. This can happen even if the threat from outside is not linked to the use of nuclear weapons. In the same time according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russia, "*the prohibition of nuclear weapons contradicts the national interests of Russia.*"

During recent military exercises, President Putin personally launched the Russian "nuclear triad". Four transcontinental missiles were launched from submarines, as well as from air and ground-

based facilities capable of carrying nuclear weapons. Thus, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of Russia demonstrated a psychological readiness to use nuclear weapons.

Dear colleagues, I have lived a few kilometers from the one of the largest nuclear clusters on our planet. Here, 10 military and civilian nuclear reactors were built and 3 new reactors are currently under construction. In addition, there are 5,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel assemblies containing as much plutonium as there were in 3,000 bombs dropped on Nagasaki.

In addition, more than 30 NPP nuclear reactors were built and 4 are currently under construction in other countries of the Baltic Sea Region.

If a nuclear conflict in the Baltic Region begins, it will be a socio-ecological collapse for 100 million inhabitants of the Baltic region.

My colleagues from Scandinavia and I initiated the collection of signatures around the Baltic region with calls to the leaders of NATO countries and Russia, European and Russian Parliamentarians to stop the confrontation and militarization of the Baltic region.

We called on the parliaments of the countries around the Baltic to finance programs to save the Baltic ecosystem instead of military games.

Under our call, 110 representatives of non-governmental organizations from the Baltic region, as well as the United Kingdom, France and the United States signed.

Dear participants of the Conference, Russian authorities promote the idea that enemies surround the country, and it is necessary to invest all necessary national resources in military preparations. Thanks to this, the militarization of the public consciousness can be intensified and the use of military force is justified.

A similar situation with the political mainstream about NATO exists in the European Union countries. The politicians of NATO, EU and Russia try to separate us, to make us enemies.

We are against such a strategy!

If you come to the countryside near St. Petersburg, Hiroshima or Nagasaki and ask the people what is most important for you in life?

I am sure that most people will say: the health of children and relatives, a healthy peaceful environment, decent work.

Dear friends, we live in our common house – Planet Earth!

We raise our children together with you and need a healthy environment.

Together we can and must stop nuclear expansion and the militarization of public consciousness in our countries.

Let us unite our efforts to save our planet Earth from “military” and “peaceful” nuclear technologies.

No more Hiroshima, No more Nagasaki, No more Chernobyl, No more Fukushima!

Siobhon Macmanus Guåhan Coalition for Peace and Justice Guam

It is an honor to be here in Japan as a peace marcher from Guam, to have walked with so many activists from Fukuyama all the way to Hiroshima City. I have been deeply humbled these past few days to learn and hear from the hibakusha, who have been in this fight against nuclear weapons for 73 years. Their voice is critical to bringing forth an era of peace free from weapons of mass destruction, not only in Japan but around the world.

My home, Guam, has been under US military occupation for more than 100 years. Our struggle is much like Okinawa. Under US Navy rule from 1901 to 1940, Guam’s native language was banned in all American schools and businesses. As military bases grew, Guam became a target and Japan soon invaded the island.

My grandmother and grandfather suffered through the Japanese occupation. They were forced to work in labor camps. They watched as their friends and families were starved, slaughtered, or used as comfort women. What Japanese soldiers did in China and Korea, they also did in Guam.

During the Battle for Guam, American bombs destroyed many villages, including my grandmother’s. American military then stole native lands in order to expand their bases. My grandfather and many of the WW II generation could not return to their homes because the military took over. America never paid them. Today, a generation of war survivors in Guam will never see reparations the US promised to pay.

Now, the US military occupies 25% of Guam’s land, and controls 30% of our economy. In Guam, we are US citizens who cannot vote for our president even though we are used in US wars.

The Japanese government is currently supporting the relocation of US Marines from Okinawa to Guam by funding the expansion of US military bases in the northern part of my island. 89 million dollars of this 700 million dollar project to further demolish my home will come from Japanese people’s taxes.

And last year, Guam made worldwide news when we became the target for North Korea’s nuclear threats.

These recent events are not disconnected. As long as Guam and other islands in the Pacific remain occupied by military forces, the threat of war also remains.

Our people have lived like this for too long. We refuse for our islands to only exist as military battlegrounds. We cannot demand for the end of nuclear weapons without confronting the military powers in the Pacific. The North Korean, American, and Japanese governments must be held accountable by those of us who want a future without war. This is why the Guåhan Coalition for Peace and Justice will continue to work in solidarity with the Takae and Henoko activists.

Hokkaido. Honshu. Shikoku. Kyushu. Okinawa. Bikini. Guam. Our islands may seem small, but together we are many and we are strong.

Thank you all for welcoming the international community into your home. We promise to continue to fight for your future and ours. No human is free until we are *all* free. Arigatou Gozaimashita!

Michelle Cunha
Peace Action/Massachusetts Peace Action
U.S.A.

Thank you for welcoming me to Nagasaki. It is an honor to be here. I'm here representing Peace Action based in Washington, DC and the local affiliate I work for Massachusetts Peace Action.

Today, here in Nagasaki, we are witnessing the power of grassroots movements coming together to solve the greatest threat to our planet in human history: nuclear weapons. Our parents and grandparents left us a legacy of death and destruction but we, the new generation of anti-nuclear activists, are coming together in ways our predecessors could not. We are using social media to break down the walls of silence and complicity. We are using our voices to amplify the global call for disarmament. We are using our humanity to spread the message: nuclear weapons serve no useful purpose.

The nuclear disarmament community in the United States is reawakening to resist the new nuclear arms race. Together we will work in our respective communities to bring about the thing every single one of us desires: complete, worldwide nuclear disarmament.

Just last night, the City Council of Los Angeles, California voted to urge the United States to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to end the President's sole authority to launch a nuclear weapon, taking weapons off hair-trigger alert and cancel the plans to replace its entire nuclear arsenal with enhanced weapons.

While the task seems daunting I have no doubt we will succeed. We will persevere in the face of our critics. We will overcome any obstacle put in our way.

"FAILURE IS IMPOSSIBLE!" said Susan B. Anthony when asked if women would ever get the vote in the US. I echo her sentiments: FAILURE IS IMPOSSIBLE!

We will see a world free of nuclear weapons and nuclear power!

Lee Jun Kyu
Researcher, Center for Peace Research
and Education of KYOREH HANA
R.O.K.

Friends, I am very pleased to be here with you. I am Lee Jun Kyu from the Republic of Korea.

Last year's World Conference was held in the joy over the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, an important achievement of the world-wide anti-nuclear peace movements over many years. On the other hand, we were facing a growing tension involving the Korean Peninsula. Belligerent words and actions were exchanged between the US and the DPRK. The situation now is a world away from what it was then.

On April 27, the two heads of two Koreas agreed in the Panmunjom Declaration that there will be no more wars on the Korean Peninsula and a new era of peace has opened and that they aim to establish a permanent and solid peace regime on the Korean Peninsula and confirmed the common goal of realizing a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula through complete denuclearization. On June 12, in the first-ever Summit meeting in Singapore, the leaders of the US and DPRK issued a joint statement which included the promise for a system of peace on the Korean Peninsula, the assurance of North Korean regime by the US and North Korea's determination for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Above all, it is important that the two agreements confirmed the fact that in order to achieve a nuclear-free and sustainable peace by putting an end to hostility and threat of nuclear war, the progress in the peace process of the Korean Peninsula, from the declaration of the end of war and peace treaty to a system of peace, is necessary. At both levels - internationally and in East Asia - we now stand at the crossroads to open the way for a peaceful era.

In East Asia, we have spent 70 years of history of confrontations between the US and the DPRK as well as North and South Korea in the course of the Cold War. And it is 30 years since the tension over

nuclear issues heightened. There may be more challenges to emerge and difficult negotiations to follow. But I am convinced that the public opinion and movement of the people against nuclear weapons and for peace, which have brought about this historic turning point, will not allow the present current of the history to go backwards.

The San Francisco System laid the institutional foundation of the Cold War in East Asia. It created the structure of confrontation between East and West blocs and gave rise to the politics of alliance of the U.S., Japan and ROK, placing nuclear weapons at the top of the structure. It prevented the people in East Asia from overcoming the history of imperialism and colonialism. And we are still witnessing the legacy of the Cold War in Okinawa where the reinforcement and expansion of US bases continue against people's protest, in Soseongri where THAAD was deployed and in the DMZ, the place with highest concentration of the most advanced weapons and military troops. The so-called "agreement on the issue of comfort women" of 2016 between Park Geun-hye and Abe supported by the U.S. was reached with the purpose of strengthening of military partnership between the U.S., Japan and South Korea. It evidently proved how the human rights and dignity of the victims of history have been sacrificed for the sake of military alliance and national security by the State power of injustice against people's will.

Friends, any systems based on geopolitics, ideology and military confrontation structure are already outdated. Politics of alliances, "nuclear umbrella", hostile relations and systems that have built them are all ancient regimes that must be defeated by the power of solidarity among people across boundaries which has created the recent changes. Taking advantage of the opportunities of the period of changes, we must work together to give rise to a new order of security and peace in East Asia.

Historically, the Korean Peninsula has been the place where interests of surrounding countries intersect and often crush. This is the reason why I believe that progress in the peace process of the Korean Peninsula will offer a historic opportunity leading to a new order of peace in this region. And for an irreversible progress of this peace process, solidarity among the people of the world is essential.

I ardently hope that in the next year's World Conference, I will be able to report to you, saying, "We have put an end to the era of war of the Korean Peninsula. We live in the era of peace now."

Corazon Fabros Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition

Friends, I am deeply honored and grateful to speak at our Nagasaki Day Rally. I bring solidarity greetings from the Philippines and from the International Peace Bureau. This year's commemoration touched me deeply to hear the calls for unity despite our diversity, and the consolidation of our forces across movements, generations and peoples here in Japan. And most specially the presence of many young people as we have seen during the Peace March and in this hall this morning.

In that spirit, I wish to thank the international relay peace marchers this year. Your presence provided encouragement to many young people making the 60th year of the Peace March truly meaningful. Let us double our efforts to reach out to more young people and make the international youth relay, truly representative of the future generation's commitment to the total elimination of nuclear weapons and war.

Against the backdrop of rising fascist and dictatorial regimes in most of Asia and the Pacific, the continuing advance of our campaign for the elimination of nuclear weapons and foreign military bases faces tremendous challenge with the narrowing democratic space necessary to advance our cause. We must find ways to address our issues comprehensively, creatively, inclusively forging solidarities with other movements to broaden our critical mass.

It is heartwarming to experience strong leadership presence of my sisters in the women's movement. Your support for the Peace March and in the continuing struggles in many islands in Asia and the Pacific is remarkable! The dynamic and committed leadership of our Korean sisters as they host Women Cross DMZ – gives us a glimpse of what could be a fulfillment of our long time hope for united Korea at last! We must continue to provide this quality of presence, in greater numbers and passion to fight the continuing discrimination, misogyny and marginalization of women, children and peoples of color. No Women, No Peace!

Let us stand with the Hibakushas, whose fading health and weakening voice bear witness to the injustice and inhumane treatment by their own governments and the government of the United States. Let us not forget those who have gone before us . . . remembering them with deep gratitude in our hearts, today and always . . . Senji Yamaguchi . . . Sumiteru Taniguchi . . . Nelson Anjain . . . many others . . . Let us be their collective and rallying voice so that their determined call of "NEVER AGAIN A-BOMB!" will come to fruition. NO

MORE HIROSHIMA! NO MORE NAGASAKI
NO MORE HIBAKUSHA! NO MORE WAR!!

We express our continuing solidarity with the peoples of Okinawa and share in their grief with the passing of Governor Onaga, who in his lifetime exemplified the leader who listened to his people, courageous and determined to the end, loving and living the Okinawan credo “Nuchi du takara”. Let us honor him by continuing his legacy of a united Okinawan resistance. During this critical period in the Okinawan struggle, we call for support to stop Henoko construction. . . The Okinawan people--of all generations--have stood steadily and mightily against the US and Japanese governments. Let us help build the strongest movement against the continuing scourge of U.S. military occupation and intervention in our communities!

BEIGUN KITCHI IRANAI! (No US Bases!)

THE ONLY WAY TO WIN IS TO NEVER
GIVE UP!!!

TOMONI, GAMBARI MASHO! (Together, let
us carry on!)

Grass-roots Movement of Japan:

Moriguchi Mitsugu Nagasaki Association to Promote the International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign

Seventy-three years have passed since the atomic bombings. The bombs that dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki were the first nuclear weapons used in human history. Nine countries in the world currently possess a total of 14,560 nuclear weapons whose destructive power together would be tens of thousands larger than those used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Seeking to abolish these weapons, in April 2016, the Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) announced the launch of the “International Signature Campaign in Support of the Appeal of the Hibakusha for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”. Following this announcement, in Nagasaki, five Hibakusha organizations (the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Bereaved Families Association, two associations of A-bomb survivors’ certificate holders in Nagasaki Prefecture, and the Hibakusha Liaison Council of the Nagasaki Prefectural Peace Movement Center) held talks and decided to be initiators of this signature drive locally. The five organizations also agreed to entrust the role of secretariat to the following 4 organizations:

Nagasaki Consumers’ Co-operative Union, Nagasaki Congress Against A and H Bombs, Nagasaki Council against A and H Bombs, and the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council.

The Hibakusha Appeal signature drive started in Nagasaki on the occasion of U.S. President Obama’s history-making visit to Hiroshima. A kickoff rally took place in front of the Peace Statue in the Peace Park and rally participants collected 234 signatures within 30 minutes from people, including foreign tourists from 13 countries. Nagasaki made a good start of the signature campaign.

In August 2016, the Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons joined as a secretariat member. In September, the Nagasaki Association to Promote the Hibakusha Appeal International Signature Campaign was officially established. The association as its leaders elected Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council Chair Taniguchi Sumiteru and Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly Organizing Committee Chair Tomonaga Masao. The association decided to promote the signature drive, solicit endorsement from a wide range of individuals/organizations, increase public awareness of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and organize meetings to discuss ways to abolish nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, Mr. Taniguchi died in August 2017. Carrying on his will, the association is working toward a goal of collecting 500,000 signatures in Nagasaki. Representing the endorsers of the campaign, Nagasaki Mayor Taue Tomihisa, Nagasaki Governor Nakamura Hodo, Chair of the Nagasaki Foundation for the Promotion of Peace Yokose Akiyuki, and Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly Organizing Committee Chair Tomonaga Masao released their names.

In tribute to the UN “International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons” on September 26, every month on the 26th day, the association takes to the streets in downtown areas in Nagasaki City to collect signatures. In this street action, a song for the Hibakusha Appeal signature collection campaign and peace songs are sung. Participants of the action range from the Hibakusha to young people. Furthermore, in response to the association’s request, 21 of 22 municipal leaders in the prefecture have signed the Hibakusha Appeal. The association is tenaciously urging the Sasebo City mayor, the last of the 22 municipal heads, to sign the appeal.

The citizens’ association holds a gathering at each juncture. The success of reaching the 500,000 goal depends on our present and future efforts.

Takahashi Keiko
General Secretary, Fukuoka Council
against A & H Bombs (Fukuoka Gensuikyo)

In Moji city, Fukuoka Prefecture, we have a unique initiative of holding a peace rally organized jointly by Gensuikyo, Gensuikin (Fukuoka Congress Against A & H Bombs) and Kyoto Center (Kitakyushu Joint Struggle Center for Peace, Labor and Human Rights). It has continued for 6 years based on the shared determination of the participants to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons. People from various horizons, including trade unions, political parties, human rights and peace groups join the rally and walk together in the Peace March in Moji area. This year, a total of 140 people from 24 organizations marched side by side.

In order to promote the “International Hibakusha Appeal Signature Campaign” launched on April in 2016, we formed the “Fukuoka promotion committee” on July 14th, 2016. Twenty-nine organizations in total have joined this committee, including Fukuoka Hidankyo (Prefectural Federation of Hibakusha organizations), Fukuoka Gensuikyo, Fukuoka Gensuikin, Fukuoka Consumers’ Co-operative Union, Fukuoka City A-bomb victims’ organization and Fukuoka City Gensuikyo. We request mayors and local councilors to offer their support for this signature campaign and also carry out a signature drive once a month at Hakata railway station.

Fukuoka is one of the cosmopolitan cities in Japan and we prepare English, Chinese and Korean versions of signature forms when we take to the street. Once, a Japanese language school teacher asked us whether we had signature forms in different languages so that she could use them when she teaches her students Japanese history.

Local promotion committees complement the effort in local areas that prefectural committee cannot reach out. In Fukamachi elementary school district in Wakamatsu ward, Kitakyushu city, “Fukamachi committee for promoting Hibakusha signature campaign” was formed last September. The group calls for cooperation on neighborhood associations in the community, local public facilities, nursery centers and temples and has so far collected signatures from more than 20 percent of the district population.

In Kurume City, Kurume Gensuikyo took the lead to form the “Kurume Hibakusha Signature Campaign Promotion Committee” in January this year. They held an “A-bomb photo exhibition” from July 18 to 22 at a gallery in a local shopping mall.

Through these community-based activities, we have been carrying out our signature collection and talking to people about the reality of the A-bombing as well as the preciousness of life and peace. Our slogan was: “If you know about the atomic bombing, share your knowledge with others; if you don’t, let’s learn together!”

The initiatives in this year’s World Conference have given me hope that young people will play a more and more promising role in future. Indeed, in Hiroshima, young participants from Fukuoka attended “Ring! Link! Zero!” on August 4. And they organized an “exchange meeting of young participants from Fukuoka” after the workshop on August 5, bringing together 45 young people to learn together and exchange their opinions.

Though we are slow starters, we have collected 140,000 signatures in Fukuoka so far. Our goal is collecting one million signatures. In order to accomplish it, veterans and young people, hand in hand, will continue the struggle to make the world free from nuclear weapons.



Appendices:

Overseas Delegates and Guests in the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs

Representatives of National Governments

Mr. Jamie Walsh, Deputy Director, Disarmament & Non-Proliferation, Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Ireland

Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi, Director for Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria

Mr. Claudio Monzón, Second Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan

Ms. Patricia Flechilla, Third Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Cuba in Japan

Mr. Carlos Fernando Almada López, Ambassador to Japan, United Mexican States

Mr. Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador to Japan, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Representatives of Peace Movements and Individuals

Asia-Pacific

Guam

Ms. Siobhán McManus, Guåhan Coalition for Peace and Justice/ International Youth Relay Marcher

The Philippines

Ms. Corazon Valdez Fabros, Secretary-General, Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition/ Vice President, International Peace Bureau (IPB)

Mr. Magiting Fabros, Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition

Mr. Guerrero AG Saño, Teach Peace, Build Peace/ Art Mission for Peace/ International Youth Relay Marcher

Republic of Korea

Mr. Kim Seong Un, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association

Mr. Yun Tae Won, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association

Mr. Gong Kee Yun, Korean Atomic Bomb Casualty Association

Mr. Lee Jun Kyu, Researcher, Center for Peace Research and Education of KYOREH HANA

Ms. Hwang Soo Young, Director, Center for Peace and Disarmament, People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy

Mr. Park Seok Min, Director of Education Bureau, Korean Confederation of Trade Unions

Ms. Choi Eun-Soon, Co-Representative, Korean Women's Associations United (KWAU)

Mr. Lee Jae Young, Civil Network for Justice in Sports - Korea/ International Youth Relay Marcher

Ms. Jeong Seok Soon, Director of Youth and Student Department, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Mr. Chae Min Seok, Secretary General of Youth and Student Department, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Mr. Kim Chang Woo, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Ms. Shim Young Joo, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society/ Professor of Oral Medicine, Wonkwang Univ. Dental Hospital

Mr. Jung Sang, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Mr. Heo Won Beom, Youth and Student Department, Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Ms. Ko Jeong Min, 1st grade student, Wonkwang

University College of Dentistry

Ms. Kim Na Young, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Ms. Kim Min Jin, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Ms. Kim Chae Eun, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Mr. Jun Jin, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Ms. Jo Hye Jin, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Ms. Cha Soo Jeong, 2nd grade student, Wonkwang University College of Dentistry

Ms. Song Hae Jin, Secretary General of Korean Pharmacists' Association for Healthy Society

Ms. Lim Seong Mi, Association of Physicians for Humanism/ Emergency medicine doctor

Mr. Jang Young Woo, Director of medical service of Association of Physicians for Humanism/ Cardiologist

Ms. Lee Bora, Secretary General of Association of Physicians for Humanism/Pulmonologist

Ms. Kim Hyun Sook, Association of Physicians for Humanism/ Pediatrician

Mr. Lee Hyo Jik, Staff of Korean Dentists' Association for Healthy Society

Ms. Lee Miok, Staff of Association of Physicians for Humanism

Ms. An Eunsun, Reporter of Gunchinews

Ms. Kim Ji Hyun, Head of PR department of Green Hospital

China

Mr. Chen Zhe, Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament/ Assistant Research Fellow, Department of International Politics Theory, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Ms. Yei Hsuan Huang, Lan An Cultural and Educational Foundation, Lanyu/ International Youth Relay Marcher, Taiwan

Vietnam

Mr. Dong Huy Cuong, Secretary General, Vietnam Peace Committee

Mr. Bui Van Xien, Deputy Director, the Hoa Binh Provincial Department of Foreign Affairs

Nepal

Ms. Parijat Bhandari, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal (AAPSO-Nepal)

Mr. Rabindra Adhikari, National Coordinator, Nepal Peace and Solidarity Council (NPSC)/ World Peace Council (WPC)

Mr. Ghanashyam Rijal, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Shiv Adhikari, National Council Member, NPSC

Ms. Shashi Kala Bhetwal, National Council Member, NPSC

Mr. Khum Prasad Sharma, Global Network Against Weapons and Power in Space, Nepal/ Lecturer, Tribhuvan University

Mr. Suresh Paudyal, Global Network Against Weapons and Power in Space, Nepal/ Assistant Professor, Purbanchal University

India

Mr. Potturi Narayana Rao, Lead Foundation

Ms. Manisha Gaur, Roopantaran Training and Development pvt ltd.

Europe

Russia

Mr. Oleg Bodrov, Chairperson, Public Council of the South Coast of the Gulf of Finland/ Film director

Sweden

Mr. Alex Jajil, Researcher

France

Mr. Pierre-Louis Cazaux, French Peace Movement (Le Mouvement de la Paix)

Ms. Ninon Cazaux, French Peace Movement

Ms. Julia Coulon, French Peace Movement

Ms. Régine Scaps, French Peace Movement

Ms. Christine Rosenberg, French Peace Movement
Ms. Arlette Jean, French Peace Movement
Ms. Corinne Frison, French Peace Movement
Ms. Charlotte Demathieu, French Peace Movement

United Kingdom

Ms. Rachel Melly, Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)/ Yorkshire CND

Middle East & Africa

Egypt

Mr. Atef Ahmed, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Freelance educational consultant

Jordan

Ms. Hala Alawi, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Biology teacher

Lebanon

Ms. Rawan Yaghi, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Educational Director & English teacher

Morocco

Ms. Samira Id El Cadi, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Teacher supervisor

Mr. Mostafa Mouhibe, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ English teacher

Ms. Samia Wardane, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ EFL teacher

Palestine

Ms. Rita Doqmaq, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ University Researcher & Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator

Tunisia

Mr. Ezzeddine Saidi, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ English teacher

North & South America

U.S.A.

Mr. Joseph Gerson, Chair, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security/ Vice President, International Peace Bureau (IPB)

Ms. Alicia Sanders-Zakre, Staff, Arms Control Association/ Board member, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security

Mr. Jerald Ross, Treasurer, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament and Common Security

Ms. Michelle Cunha, Peace Action/ Assistant Director, Massachusetts Peace Action

Ms. Emily Rubino, Peace Action New York/ International Youth Relay Marcher

Ms. Emilie Clark, Peace Action New York/ International Youth Relay Marcher

Ms. Karlene Griffiths Sekou, Black Lives Matter Boston/ Principal Consultant, Dignity Project International

Mr. John Steinbach, Co-Coordinator, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Committee of the National Capital Area

Ms. Kari Thompson, Director of International Strategies and Co-Director of Education, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE)

Mr. Ray Matsumiya, Executive Director, University of the Middle East Project/ Oleander Initiative

Ms. Michelle Emmett, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Judy Dalgo, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Teacher

Ms. Mariah Pol, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Teacher

Ms. Nina Corley, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Teacher

Mr. Ronald Eisenman, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project/ Teacher

Ms. Mary Popeo, Oleander Initiative Program Manager of the University of the Middle East Project

Mr. Steve Leeper, Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project

International & Regional Organizations

Mr. Donald Mellman, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)/ Oleander Initiative, University of the Middle East Project

Ms. Shibata Masako, Executive Committee member, Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF)/ President, Japan Federation of Women's Organizations

Messages of Solidarity from Overseas to the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs

National Governments/ International Organizations:

(Please see page 10 for the texts)

Austria

Alexander Van der Bellen, Federal President

Brazil

Michel Temer, President

Ireland

Michael D. Higgins, President

Laos

Bounnhang Vorachith, President

Nepal

K. P. Sharma Oli, Prime Minister/ Patron, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization of Nepal (AAPSO Nepal)

South Africa

Cyril Ramaphosa, President

Viet Nam

TRẦN ĐÀI QUANG, President

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Seiko Ishikawa, Ambassador to Japan, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

International Committee of the Red Cross

Peter Maurer, President

Anti-nuclear and Peace Movements:

Phyllis Creighton

Toronto (Hiroshima Day Coalition), Canada

As we gather in many places around the globe to remember the horrific atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I send greetings to you in hopes you will have a meaningful conference. May

reflecting and discussing inspire you! We need the action you foster.

We all are working to get the nuclear ban treaty in force, but it is urgent, with the high risk of nuclear war, that we push hard for de-alerting, ending first use doctrines and modernization of nuclear arsenals, and getting serious reductions in them.

I send all my good wishes for the success of your work together. Press on to free the world from the scourge of nuclear weapons!

Gediminas Rimdeika, M.D.

Lithuanian Green Party

Dear friends, associates and organizers of The World Conference,

Today you have gathered to celebrate the 73rd anniversary of the Dreadful World Tragedy. You have gathered from all the continents of the world, once again to tell the nations of the world, their leaders, NO TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

At present time, in the palace of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, thirty paintings are being exhibited showing the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In Lithuania, this exhibition was exhibited at Lithuanian Parliament, schools, libraries, etc. Representatives of Lithuania and foreign states, businessmen, diplomats are visiting the Government Palace. This is where we can be reminded about the tragic consequences of bombing. This is an occasion when we can spread this information to people's hearts. This exhibition is going through schools and libraries not by chance. These are the places where we are educating our future ministers, prime ministers, presidents. After seeing and understanding the consequences of such actions, they will actively take steps to stop the production of nuclear weapons. They will initiate ban of nuclear weapons.

My associates from Lithuania and me, for twenty-six years, have been participating in the Movement against Nuclear and Hydrogen weapons, participating in The World Conferences held in Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Shizuoka. The people of our country since 1986 have experienced the

consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident and have repeatedly signed petitions against atomic and hydrogen weapons and handed them to Organizers of The World Conference. The only nuclear Ignalina power plant in Lithuania was closed in 2009, but the problem of nuclear power plants remains relevant in Lithuania even today. At the initiative of the Russian Federation, only 50 km from Lithuanian border in Belarus, Astravsk Nuclear Power Plant is being built, and in the west a few kilometers away from the western border of Lithuania in the Kaliningrad Region of the Russian Federation another nuclear power plant arises. Lithuania is surrounded by nuclear power plants. These nuclear power plants are being built in violation of international legal norms, they are being constructed without responding to the comments of international organizations.

The world is currently living in not the most peaceful period of time, wars in various parts of the world, the proliferation of weapons, all of this hinder the development of civilization as huge money goes not to raise the welfare of people. The US and North Korean leader summit is a small step forward stopping production of nuclear weapons, but will they have enough transparency, decency and proper action to fulfil promises to stop nuclear tests. During the US and Russia presidents' summit in Helsinki this July, journalist who wanted to remind an issue nuclear weapons, was pulled out of the hall in the most rigorous way. What is this? Is this a new democratic dictatorship, or it is a new form of dictatorial democracy? Such behavior makes it doubtful whether an open and coherent solution is possible. Only sincere agreements is a right way to solve problems. This was demonstrated by the trade cooperation agreement signed in July between the European Union and Japan, which opens European markets for Japan and Japanese markets are opened to Europe.

In 2017 in Oslo an award of Nobel Peace Prize ICAN - International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, was handed. This is an evaluation of Gensuikyo's work.

Our generation must carry out this glorious duty every minute, every hour, every day, every week, month, year, in order to leave environment (not only literally but also in our minds) to the next generations as clean as possible.

J. Narayana Rao
Director, Global Network against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, India

I know that you are very busy with arrangements with the World Conference. I regret that due to my health problem I have cancelled attending this year Conference.

I hope that the deliberations will lead to putting pressure on the 9 Nuclear Nations who are reluctant to join the Nuclear Abolition treaty. I wish that an action program is chalked out in this direction. Wishing you a great success of the Conference.

Simbirtseva Zoya Mikhailovna,
Member of the Coordination Council, the
International Antinuclear Movement
<Nevada-Semipalatinsk>

Dear organizers of the World Conference against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, Dear Secretary General Yasui Masakazu,

I congratulate you on your excellent work to protect the world from nuclear weapons. Your active position in the international arena is bearing fruit. Nuclear arsenals are being reduced, nuclear test sites are silent. Your country had to survive the nuclear bombing of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This tragedy is irreplaceable for the people.

We, the Semipalatinsk people, know what kind of damage to the health of the people and the environment caused 40 years of nuclear tests at the site, even at a distance of 180 km from the city. We joined the international anti-Nuclear Movement "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" under the leadership of Olzhas Suleimenov. In 1989 and 2 years later the site was closed. But during the 40 years of nuclear tests and in the years that followed, more than 2 million people were affected. My family almost all died of cancer.

I am disabled 2 groups from SIAP for a common disease and moved to live in Russia in the city of Togliatti to her daughter. My health is very bad.

I was at your conference in 1996 when Hiroshi Taka was Secretary-General. And he and the delegation came to Semipalatinsk together with the delegation of Masahiko Takagi, Mikio Kazhim, Chieko Uto. Please pass along a big Hello to Hiroshi Taka and Chieko Uto. With the move I lost their address and would like to restore conversation with them and invite them to visit the Russian city of Togliatti. The city is beautiful. People are kind and attentive, great workers. World football was held in summer. It was a peaceful sport competition and demonstrated great friendship between the Nations.

Dr. Guido Grünewald
International Speaker, German Peace Society-
United War Resisters (DFG-VK), Germany

Dear friends,

On 6 and 9 August we commemorate in many German cities and communities the victims of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We honour the dead, commemorate survivors still alive

and their descendants and we are grateful for those hibakusha who came to our country during the last decades and by their moving testimony reminded us of our responsibility to free the world of nuclear weapons.

Today the situation is difficult and dangerous. On the one side we have the inspiring treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons from last year by which an overwhelming majority of states confirmed their wish to abolish all nuclear weapons. On the other sides we see that the nuclear weapons states are building up their arsenals and that the termination of the agreement with Iran creates an incentive for states to develop their own nuclear arms. The threshold for military interventions has become lower and in many regions of the world conventional armament is increasing. There is also a renaissance of an accentuated national policy up to a growing nationalism often combined with racism.

Even though we are in a weak position we have to counter these developments. Core aim of the World Conference against A- and H-Bombs is and remains complete nuclear disarmament and the abolishment of all nuclear weapons. We should, however, also fight against the policy of national strength and of “my country first” and make clear that global problems like climate change, hunger and poverty can be countered effectively only by acting multilaterally based on solidarity.

We wish the World Conference against A and H Bombs all the best and hope that it can make an important contribution to meet those challenges.

Tomas Magnusson
Former President of IPB and former President of Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society, Sweden

Dear friends,

With all my appreciation and with all my thankfulness, please accept my greetings to the World conference. We must celebrate what has been achieved in our common struggle for peace and give each other the energy necessary to reach the final goal of total abolition of all nuclear weapons.

Peace Action, U.S.A.

To our dear friends in Japan, and from across the world whom have joined together in the pursuit of peace,

On this 73rd memorial of the devastation inflicted on the cities and people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Peace Action expresses our organization’s solidarity with you, and our ongoing commitment to doing the work, side by side, to build a movement for peace so loud that it cannot be ignored.

This year, our global movement was recognized and celebrated when ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, won the Nobel Peace Prize. There are now 468 organizations from 101 countries partnered in this coalition. We continue to celebrate 122 countries voting to pass a ban on nuclear weapons, and the growing momentum towards its ratification, thanks to your unending activism. We celebrate, too, the ongoing peace talks on the Korean Peninsula, and the incredible efforts of our international peace community to rally support for a diplomatic path forward.

The work we are doing in unison is imperative. Thank you for acting.

We extend a special message of support and solidarity to our siblings in Hiroshima, who experienced great loss and trauma due to extreme weather conditions. Our hearts extend to you and your communities as you rebuild and recover. Because our world is one, we cannot be silent about our governments' need to address climate change, poverty, and inequality – and demand they pursue policies rooted in justice and peace. The alternative future is unbearable, and thus we must persist.

We stand in solidarity with you, in pursuit of our shared goals. We work alongside you to create the world we can envision. And, we celebrate the joys of our struggle with you, and the inspiration we find in you.

No More Hibakusha! No More War!

Your friends at Peace Action.

World Peace Council

(Please see page 53 for the text)

Rene Wadlow
President, Association of World Citizens

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to send you well in advance our yearly message on behalf of the Association of World Citizens for the participants in the 6 August meetings. I thought that some of it could be translated into Japanese.

With all best wishes, Rene
A Concerted Non-Governmental Effort to Reduce Regional Tensions

The recent Summit meetings between the Presidents of North Korea and the USA and Russia and the USA have helped to reduce tensions among these nuclear-weapon-armed States. Nevertheless, tensions remain, and there is a long road to travel to have stable peace conditions. Therefore there needs to be a concerted non-governmental effort to reduce regional tensions.

While there has been progress and useful discussions on Korea and on US-Russia relations,

there has been no progress concerning regional tensions in the wider Middle East. Therefore, the Association of World Citizens has been stressing the need for a Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Middle East. Your energy and constructive actions are necessary for the development of a harmonious world society.

Messages from Women's Organizations to the 2018 World Conference against A & H Bombs and the Women's Forum (August 5):

Regina Marques, Women's Democratic Movement in Portugal (MDM)

MDM, women's democratic movement from Portugal, welcomes the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs that takes place from August 3 to 9 in Hiroshima.

We wish to strengthen the bonds of solidarity between Portuguese and Japanese women in the just struggle for a world free of nuclear weapons.

The adoption of UN Nuclear-ban treaty in 2017 and the North Korea-US summit last June are sources of hope for us and we are fighting for these documents must be fulfilled by all governments.

We salute our dear friend Masako Shibata, a great international fighter for the cause of peace in the world, president of FUDANREN and representative of WIDF. We salute "women's forum", we are sure that Women together and united have been and continue to be an indispensable force in the struggle for peace.

We don't forget the horrors of the atomic bomb of 1945 and we don't despise the threats of our time. That is why we trust that the struggle of women and their loud cry in all political spaces will build a world of peace, social justice, a world without violence where we can live freely and let the new generations grow with their peaceful dreams.

Federation of Greek Women (OGE, WIDF Coordinator for Europe)

Dear fellow militants,

We honor the victims of the imperialist crime in Hiroshima -Nagasaki by intensifying our struggle against imperialism and its associations.

73 years after the imperialist atrocities in Hiroshima and Nagasaki the NATO imperialists are terrifying the people with the threat of a new nuclear strike.

The competition race for controlling the wealth resources, the markets, the energy transportation routes, the nightmarish decisions of the NATO Summits, the strengthening of the EU militarization constitute an immediate danger to our people and all the peoples of the planet.

The Federation of Greek Women (OGE)

condemns the Greek government SYRIZA-ANEL that increasingly involves our country in the NATO/EU criminal plans. They upgrade the NATO Bases in Greece and prepare for the installation of nuclear weapons in Araxos. At the same time they spend huge sums for NATO military spending while their permanent unpopular policies kneel our people. The Greek government Syriza/Anel has a leading role in the implementation of USA/EU/NATO plans in the Western Balkans and the SouthEast Mediterranean and great involvement in dangerous adventures deriving from the antagonisms NATO/RUSSIA.

We are struggling and demanding:

- No involvement of our country in the imperialists plans and interventions.

- The immediate closure of Souda Base in Crete as well of all the NATO Bases.

- The Aegean Sea free of NATO.

- The return of all the Greek military missions from NATO and EU operations abroad.

- ABOLITION OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND PROHIBITION OF NUCLEAR TESTINGS.

- Unleashing our country from NATO and the EU that spread wars, poverty and refugees.

Dear fellow militants ,

The women of our Federation will massively participate in the antiimperialist demonstration which is organized by EEDYE at the Sacred Rock of Acropolis in Athens on Thursday, August 9,2018 sending the message for the abolition of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

NEVER AGAIN HIROSHIMA.

NEVER AGAIN NAGASAKI

Ada Donno, Italy President, Association of Women of the Mediterranean Region (AWMR)/ WIDF Vice President

What are the next steps towards a world free of nuclear weapons, after the UN-approved nuclear prohibition Treaty in 2017 and the historic North Korea - United States summit last June?

Dear Masako Shibata, president of FUDANREN,
Dear Yuri Horie vice president,

We are deeply convinced that the banning of all nuclear weapons is an aspiration shared by all of women and it is an imperative necessity to affirm the principle that We are deeply convinced that the production and use of nuclear weapons are to be abolished on the basis of international law, considering their devastating consequences at the humanitarian level and the concrete risk that they are actually used.

The end of the Cold War could have put an end

to the nuclear arms race, but it did not happen: we went from the "balance of terror" of the Cold War to a more dangerous "imbalance of terror", which originates from the US pretension to increase its advantage over all others, both in conventional high-tech armaments and in nuclear weapons.

The possession of nuclear weapons gives a country the status of power. Currently, nine countries own them and at least another 30 countries are able to build them. In the current situation of "imbalance of terror" the likelihood of even more countries trying to own them increases.

To the countries that possess a nuclear arsenal must be added those that "host" nuclear weapons on their territories.

Italy in theory would be a non-nuclear country, because in 1975 it ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by committing (Article 2) not to produce or accept nuclear weapons on its territory. But Italy, as an US allied country and a member of NATO, « hosts » 90 US nuclear bombs and even Italian pilots are trained to use them. So Italy violates the signed and ratified nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

But it is not enough. According to the commitments made by the government in the framework of the Atlantic Alliance, Italian military spending will be increased from the current 70 million euro a day to over 100 million. Increasing military spending is a requirement for most EU member states under the PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation), although EU member states impose strict austerity policies. It is a huge outlay of public money, which is subtracted from social spending, for the benefit of a military-political alliance whose strategy is not defensive, as it proclaims, but offensive.

Especially serious is the fact that the US is preparing to send in Italy, Germany, Belgium, Holland and probably in other European countries, the new particularly devastating nuclear bomb B61-12. It is expected to produce about 500, starting from 2020.

The B61-12 nuclear bomb, which Italy will receive from the US, will be a genuine "parcel bomb" that will explode in our hands, because it will expose Italy to new dangers as an "advanced base" of the US nuclear strategy against the Russia and the other Eastern and Mediterranean countries.

The continued expansion of NATO is against international security.

How can we organize a more effective opposition and new strategies towards a common

security policy in the 21st century?

In light of the UN Treaty and the historic North Korea-US summit, our next steps will be towards mobilization to request the Italian government:

- to remove any US nuclear weapon from our territory;
- to refuse the overall strengthening of US forces in Europe and the new B61-12 nuclear bombs;
- to refuse to supply the Pentagon pilots and aircraft trained for the nuclear attack;
- to leave the NATO Nuclear Planning Group;
- to subscribe the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Last March and April, AWNR Italy participated in the Women's Caravan for Nuclear Disarmament, which has touched many Italian cities and has networked many pacifist and anti-militarist movements and associations to support the commitment of ICAN, Nobel Prize winner for the 2017 Peace, aimed at achieving the elimination of nuclear weapons. Our Women's Caravan has tried to sensitize the public opinion on the right of humanity to live free from the nuclear threat and has collected thousands of signatures in support of an Appeal for Italy to join the 122 countries that in July 2017 voted the UN Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty.

For the mankind's good and future.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) Italian Section

We, the women in WILPF Italy, would like to thank the organizers of this important international event in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We hope the 2018 World Conference "For a world free from weapons, nuclear, peaceful and fair" will help speed up the time for the entry into force of the Treaty on prohibition of nuclear weapons. It undoubtedly will strengthen the cohesion between the antinuclear movements and increase their ability to put pressure on governments holding nuclear weapons and their allies. It is urgent to convince governments that we must exit the logic of deterrence and embark on a common path aimed at countering the nuclear threat, dangerously intertwined with the climate threat and the threat of social injustice.

We want to express our sharing of the unspeakable suffering of the Hibakusha and other victims of nuclear tests. We thank them for their tireless work of sensitization through direct testimony of the horror of nuclear weapons.

The courage of women opposing war and violence will lead humanity to recover lost wisdom.

Program of Events of the 2018 World Conference against A and H Bombs (August 2 to 10, 2018)

August 1 (Wed)

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 (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

August 2 (Thu.)

Visit to Hibakusha in 3 groups: 1) Funairi-Mutsumien Nursing Home for the Hibakusha; 2) Hiroshima Red Cross Hospital & Atomic-bomb Survivors Hospital; 3) Hiroshima Kyoritsu Hospital
Opening and Plenary Sessions I & II, International Meeting (Ginga, Hiroshima City Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)

August 3 (Fri.)

Plenary Session III, International Meeting (Ginga, 3F, Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)
Workshops, International Meeting (Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall and Tsuru Gakuen Hiroshima School)
Drafting Committee Meeting (Hotel Sunroute Hiroshima)

August 4 (Sat.)

Closing Session, International Meeting (Ginga, Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)
Arrival of the Nationwide Peace March (Fountain of Hiroshima Peace Park)
Opening Plenary, 2018 World Conference against A & H Bombs - Hiroshima (Green Arena, Hiroshima Prefectural Gymnasium)
Youth Rally: Ring! Link! Zero! Youth Rally 2018 (Small Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)

August 5 (Sun)

Workshops/ Field trips (Different venues throughout Hiroshima City)
International Forum: For the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons -- Dialogue between Governments & NGOs (Hiroshima City Bunka Koryu Kaikan Hall)
Special meeting 1: For a nuclear weapon-free, bases-free Japan and solidarity with Okinawa (Hiroshima Prefectural Kenko Fukushi Center)
Special Meeting 2: Non-Nuclear and Peaceful Korean Peninsula and Asia -- What role should Japan play? (Convention Hall, Hiroshima YMCA)
No Nukes! Women's Forum 2018 (Small Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)

August 6 (Mon)

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony (Peace Park)
Closing Plenary, 2018 World Conference – Hiroshima (Green Arena, Prefectural Gymnasium)
Lantern Floating Ceremony (Motomachi River Park, north of Aioi Bridge)

August 7 (Tue.)

Move to Nagasaki by chartered bus/train; Visit to A-Bomb Epicenter Park and A-bomb Museum

August 8 (Wed)

International Forum: For the Prohibition and Elimination of Nuclear Weapons -- Dialogue between Governments and NGOs (Nakabe Auditorium, Nagasaki University)
Visit to Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital

August 9 (Thu.)

Nagasaki Day Rally, 2018 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 (Fri.)

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 2018)

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
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
TSUBOI Shunji	Japan-Eurasia Society/ Former Executive member of Japan Consumers' Cooperative Union
HATADA Shigeo	Researcher of International Politics
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 (GENSUIKYO)
NOGUCHI Kunikazu	Association for a Non-Nuclear Government



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