

2023 World Conference Against A&H Bombs
HIROSHIMA DAY RALLY

Speech by Ms. Phan Thi Khanh Chi
Deputy Secretary General
Vietnam Peace Committee

Distinguished guests,
Dear friends,

It is my great pleasure to once again attend the World Conference Against A&H Bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I am thankful for the warm welcome and generous hospitality that GENSUIKYO and Japanese friends have given to me and overseas participants. I would like to extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to all participants in this conference.

It is my great honor to hand over the Message of Solidarity from the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam Vo Van Thuong to the conference on this special occasion.

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Viet Nam Peace Committee, I would like to express our profound solidarity with all victims of the 1945 tragedies in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin and all other war victims.

Going through many resistance wars in the history, Vietnamese people understand the sufferings that hibakushas and other war victims have to endure. Like Japanese people, we are fully aware of the value of peace. Viet Nam's tradition of peace have been developed by President Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party of Viet Nam and become the guidelines for the Vietnamese people's past struggle for national independence and reunification as well as the current cause of national construction and defense. The peace spirit is clearly embodied in Viet Nam's consistent foreign policy of "independence, self-reliance, peace, friendship, cooperation and development" and the "4 Nos" principle: (i) not join any military alliances; (ii) not side with one country against another; (iii) not give any other countries permission to set up military bases or use its territory to carry out military activities against other countries; (iv) not use force or threaten to use force in international relations.

In response to the State policy, Vietnamese people organizations, including Viet Nam Peace Committee, have always spare no efforts to join hands with peace

movements around the world to promote peaceful resolutions for any disputes in international relations and made contributions to the struggle against nuclear weapons.

Dear friends,

Although we have gained remarkable achievements in our struggle for a world of peace without nuclear weapons, we are still witnessing people living in fear and suffering from conflicts. The complicated world developments, including tension increased in hotspots (South China Sea, East China Sea, Korean Peninsula, Taiwan Strait...), major power competition, the Ukraine crisis... are increasing danger of the use of nuclear weapons and the tendency of using force.

In this context, peace movements and people's organizations have to make greater efforts. We have to place further pressure on governments, especially nuclear powers to join, sign, ratify, respect and implement the TPNW. We should also continue our support for hibakushas, victims of Agent Orange and other war victims in their life and their struggle for justice. I propose that we take advantage of the developed technologies to bring the testimonies of the victims to the world and to do online signature campaigns. The Viet Nam Peace Committee is committed to working with you for a world of peace and justice.

Last but not least, I would like to share with you that the Viet Nam Peace Committee has launched a Peace Education Program with the aim of further promoting the value of peace among Vietnamese people, especially the younger generation. The program is also expected to help Vietnamese people how to live in harmony with each other and with the nature.

Dear friends,

I would like to express my sincere thanks to GENSUIKYO for giving me a chance to speak today at the World Conference Against A&H Bombs 2023. This is an excellent platform for people-to-people exchange and also a bridge to a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.

Once again, on behalf of the Viet Nam Peace Committee, I would like to convey my sincere thanks and sentiments to Japanese and international peace movements and people organizations around the world for your invaluable support for Viet Nam in the past struggle for national independence and reunification and the present cause for national development.

I wish all Hiroshima people, Japanese and international friends good health, happiness and success. May the Conference be a great success!

Thank you all for your attention./.