

No Nuclear Weapon World, We should achieve this!

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Thank you, Chair.

It is an honor for me to address all of you. At the outset, I would like to begin by expressing my deep pray for victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Nuclear bombs, because this year is the milestone of seventy years after many precious lives were burned out and lost.

I would like to talk about three points. The first, Nagasaki nuclear bomb cloud watched by my mother, the second, Japan's contribution to establish a world free from fear of nuclear weapons, and the third, collaboration between religions and politics for the nuclear abolishment.

Firstly, I would like to talk about the tragedy of nuclear weapons heard from my mother. 70 years ago, my mother watched the cloud of the nuclear bomb dropped on Nagasaki. At the time, my mother was only seven years old. The nuclear bomb of Nagasaki was originally scheduled to be dropped in Kitakyushu, where the large steel plants are located. On August 9th of 1945, Bomber B29 which had one nuclear bomb were flying to Kitakyushu but thick clouds covered Kitakyushu city, therefore this atomic bomber moved to sunny Nagasaki from cloudy Kitakyushu.

My mother told me that, in the blue sky with no clouds, she watched at the mushroom-shaped purple cloud and she thought "What a beautiful cloud". And my mother told me that under this purple mushroom cloud, tens of thousands of people had been burned out instantly.

The image of this nuclear bomb cloud still remains in my heart. That is more vivid than any photographs for me.

Therefore, I have the strong determination to abolish nuclear weapons. I have one mission. "I should make this Nagasaki nuclear bomb be the last nuclear bomb that was used to the human beings." In other words, I shall abolish all nuclear bombs over the world as my mission.

The second, I would like to talk about efforts of Japan to abolish nuclear weapons. After the atomic bombings, as the only country to have ever suffered atomic bombings, Japan is adhering to the three non-nuclear principles as national policy and makes progress towards the realization of a world free from fear of nuclear weapons in the international community. After World War 2, Japanese people made the Peace Constitution to stop war forever. Our Constitution deny wars and military force for aggressive war by the Article 9th. And based on the Article 9th, several principles for

peace have been laid out.

For examples,

- Three non-nuclear principles
- Ban on overseas deployment of Japanese troops
- Ban on possession of offensive weapons

In addition to the Article 9th of Japanese constitution, I should talk about the preface of the Constitution.

The preface of Japanese Constitution states: “We recognize that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want.” And the final paragraph of the preface of our constitution states “we, the Japanese peoples accomplish these ideals with all our resources.”

I always stress this point “all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want”. Fear must mean fear of nuclear weapon.

As our Constitution states, Japanese people should achieve this ideal with international collaborations.

Therefore, I have a plan to make “Resolution of Japanese House of Councilors on Strengthening Efforts towards the elimination of nuclear weapons” for the seventy year ceremonies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki held in August of this year. I delivered the draft paper for you. The House of Councilors is the upper house of Japan.

The third, I would talk about the collaboration between religions and politics for the nuclear weapon abolishment.

In February of 2014, PNND invited the vice-director of Religions for Peace, Rev. Sugino, to the PNND General Conference. We discussed about our collaborations of publishing “Nuclear Disarmament Resource Guide for Religious Leaders and Communities” and this second-track joint conference in NPT. I am convinced that PNND and Religions for Peace could contribute to achieve a world free from fears of nuclear weapons more and more. For example, PNND Japan and Religions for Peace made “the Joint Statement of Elimination of Nuclear Weapons”. I would like to propose PNND members and RfP members to make such joint statement for the 70th ceremonies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by each country.

Finally I would like to present you one sentence of the Constitution of UNESCO “Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed.”

“It is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed.”

I am very convinced that not only religions but also politics must construct the minds of peace all over the world.

We, PNND and Religions for Peace can, should, collaborate more and more. Thank you very much for your listening.