

A Personal Remark:  
**APPROACH PROPOSALS**  
**FOR PROMOTING PNND AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

October 12, 2007

Yoshinori SUEMATSU  
Vice-Council PNND Japan  
M.P. Japan

Nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament issues have been on the move. It seems to me that we stand at the crossroads of these critical issues. Let me summarize five proposals for promoting these issues.

**1. Continuing efforts to solve current issues**

We have to continue our efforts to tackle the North Korea issue through Six-Party talks and the Iranian issue through international frameworks including the United Nations. Also, we need to address the situation of India, a non-member of NPT which has concluded a nuclear energy agreement with the US.

**2. Emphasis on financial aspects of nuclear weapons**

We could gain political impetus for disarmament if we emphasized the huge cost of the production, maintenance, and waste management of nuclear weapons.

Total costs related to nuclear weapons can be obtained with the help of scientists, experts and NGOs working for nuclear disarmament. Spending on nuclear weapons by the nuclear weapon countries has consumed enormous budgets that are sorely needed for social welfare and civil needs. Budgets for these areas have been cut. Such resources are also necessary to address global warming issues.

From the viewpoint of civil society in the world, we can emphasize that we cannot afford to pay huge amounts of money for nuclear weapons. This perception will really lead to clear awareness of people that nuclear weapons which cannot be used in real terms are nothing but waste of tax payers' money and heavy burdens of the country.

**3. Solidarity approach of "Nuclear-Weapons-Free Cities" in the world**

On August 6, 2007, Mr. Tadatoshi Akiba, Mayor of City of Hiroshima, made his statement in "Peace Declaration", saying that "Cities suffer most from war" Mayors for Peace, with 1698 city members around the world, are actively campaigning to eliminate all nuclear weapons by 2020, as well as introducing many A-bomb exhibitions in the US and "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses" in universities around the

world. Such worldwide association of the concerned cities should be highly motivated and encouraged. In this respect, we can enlarge such networks by calling major cities of the world for their participation.

#### 4. "Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone" approach

Mr. Hiromichi Umebayashi, Advisor to PNND Japan, introduced the concept and a Model Treaty of a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone in Northeast Asia. This proposal may provide the basis for Japanese new initiatives such as exploring to hold an annual seminar for export control over Asia, or an annual meeting for nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament in Asia.

#### 5. Approach to accept the illegality of the use and the threat of use of nuclear weapons

As Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki, insisted in "2007 Nagasaki Peace Declaration", the 1996 advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice that the use and the threat of use of nuclear weapons is generally contrary to international law" stands as an important warning to mankind.

It would be helpful to promote acceptance by all governments of the ICJ advisory opinion, and to introduce the opinion, and nuclear disarmament in general, into schools.

It is disturbing that the Government of Japan has not accepted the advisory opinion, in spite of the fact that Japan is the only A-bombed country in the world. It constitutes a clear self-contradiction that Japan calls for nuclear disarmament, but accepts nuclear deterrence under a US nuclear umbrella.