



Title	出版物 RECNA Newsletter Vol.6 No.1-No.4
Author(s)	
Citation	長崎大学核兵器廃絶研究センター年報, 2017, pp.42-59; 2018
Issue Date	2018-04-30
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10069/38398
Right	

This document is downloaded at: 2019-04-24T16:28:10Z

< 出版物 >

RECNA Newsletter

長崎大学核兵器廃絶研究センター

Vol. 6 No. 1 June 2017

The First Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT): what was its impact upon negotiations for Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty?

Keiko Nakamura (Associate Professor, RECNA)

The First Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was convened in Vienna, Austria, from May 2 to May 12, 2017. H.E. Henk Cor Van der Kwast, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament and Disarmament Ambassador at large, acted as Chair-designate at the meeting, which drew participants from 111 nations. On the final day, the Chair-designate took on the responsibility of presenting the 136-point factual summary, after which the meeting was concluded.

Through the two weeks of meetings, although all the speakers from participant nations were in accord with regard to the importance of the NPT system, once again we clearly saw the all-too-familiar specter of the age-old conflict structure bubbling up to the surface, the structure consisting of dissatisfaction with the plodding progress of nuclear disarmament on the part of the non-nuclear states, and the unpredictable future of the Middle East problem, which was a factor leading to the fissures in the previous Review Conference. In the midst of this situation, the cause of the disparity in the perceptions between nations that stood out most concerned the relationship between the NPT and a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty. Negotiations about a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty started in New York this March.

The various nations had starkly contrasting interpretations according to their various positions about the discussions surrounding the problem of the legally binding prohibition of nuclear weapons, and what sort of impact this nascent treaty would have upon the NPT. The nations supporting the treaty consider it to dovetail perfectly with the NPT, and argued that it would tie-in with the execution of Article 6 of the NPT, in which the obligation to pursue nuclear disarmament is stipulated. On the other hand, the nuclear states and the nations reliant on nuclear deterrence contended that a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty that does not follow an approach based on consensus would lead to fragmentation among its signatories, weaken the NPT itself, and therefore make the realization of nuclear disarmament an even more remote prospect.

During the discussions at the recent Preparatory Committee too, the nuclear states and nations reliant on nuclear deterrence complained about this perceived ill-



Venue: United Nations Office at Vienna Photo by RECNA

effect in the most acrimonious manner, with the U.S. Ambassador Robert Wood commenting acidly on May 4 that the moves towards enacting a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty were “unhelpful, unproductive, and a temporary delusion.” However, there has still yet to be any concrete explanation of in exactly what way any nuclear-weapons-ban treaty would actually weaken the NPT, neither were any new suggestions made about pushing ahead with nuclear disarmament. The meeting ended with mere reiterations of the efficacy of “step-by-step” and “progressive approaches.”

A similar sense of inadequacy lingered on after the Japanese government’s proposals. No doubt what was hoped of the Japanese government – which has turned its back on the nuclear-weapons-ban treaty concept and exposed itself to much criticism from the places that fell victim to nuclear weapons and further afield – was that it would at least play the role of a conduit between the nuclear and the non-nuclear nations. However, the proposal of the one and only Japanese Cabinet-level member attending the Preparatory Committee, Fumio Kishida, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, was that a so-called “eminent persons group (EPG)” consisting of knowledgeable people should be established. This paltry suggestion can be interpreted only as a case of putting the problem “on ice” again for the time being. Precedents for such EPGs in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation do exist, such as the International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND) set up as a joint-initiative between the Japanese and Australian governments in the year 2008, and while the results of this initiative have

had a degree of influence on the actual policies of the two nations, the bulk of its recommendations have not been adopted. Obviously, the Commission is easily swayed by whoever are chosen as members. Nonetheless, if this proposed EPG proves to be a body that performs the role of putting forward a specific process for gaining the involvement of the nuclear nations and a treaty to prohibit the nuclear umbrella then it will indeed be welcomed.

The next meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Geneva from April 23 to May 4, 2018, and there

is a high probability that it will be the first to be held since the formal establishment of a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty. The nations that have failed to sign and ratify the treaty will be under increasing pressure to explain the reasons; there will also be demands placed upon the pro-treaty nations for new tactics and persuasive speech as the execution of the obligation for nuclear disarmament looms closer with a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty as the source of leverage. It is hoped that a fresh breeze will blow away the musty air of the business-as-usual discussions that we have become used to.

"Research Group for Nagasaki Atomic Bombing and Post-War History" was founded.

Taeko Kiriya (Visiting Researcher, RECNA)

In FY2017 RECNA launched a research group on the atomic bombing of Nagasaki and post-war history.

I have thus far been involved in the reappraisal of the "recovery" of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki from the perspective of the hibakusha. This is a theme that I first encountered as a graduate student studying in Hiroshima, stemming from the shock I felt when I heard from various hibakusha who I had become acquainted with about their uneasiness at the concept that the two cities had "recovered." When I lived in Hiroshima I initially felt a sense of admiration about the "miraculous recovery" of the city. However, I came to realize that the recovery as perceived by the hibakusha was something quite different to what I could see. As a researcher living in the same day and age as the hibakusha I started to examine afresh the concept of recovery from their point of view, and pursued my research with a sense that something significant still remained.

In addition to the experience of the atomic bombing itself, there is with regard to post-war history too a huge, deep and unbridgeable gap between the people who actually experienced the bombing and those who did not. However, this vast gap is something that is hard to perceive for the people who did not experience the bombings.

In the year 2065, in a world in which 120 years have elapsed after the atomic bombings and none of the hibakusha is left alive, how will we be talking about the experience of the atomic bombings, how will we be communicating the history of the years after the bombings? Looked at in this way, there is an array of issues that we have to deal with right now. Surely there must be some way that the numerous records and research of the past 72 years can be regarded as a part of mankind's intellectual heritage, born in the bombing sites, and examined by the hibakusha and citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki through mutual discussion. It is this awareness of issues that lies in the starting point of the research group, and the origins of the activities are the voices of those who were exposed to nuclear weapons, not the arguments of those who dropped them.

The research group will act as a practical forum where researchers and citizen activists involved in the Nagasaki issue, as well as various experts will be invited, reports listened to, and open debate held among the participants. Through this work, the group aims to clarify what issues from the atomic bombings and post-war history should be conveyed to future generations who have not experienced the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, and what the significance of these issues are.

At the first meeting of the research group, held on June 2, 2017, Shinji Takahashi, formerly a professor at Nagasaki University and a specialist who has spent nearly half a century pursuing the theme of "Philosophizing in Nagasaki" was invited to participate. Professor Takahashi was given the opportunity to deliver his report on the issues of the "life and death" of hibakusha, the responsibility of Japan before the war and for subsequent peace, and the "nuclear violence" following the Great East Japan Earthquake. Around 25 people including researchers, journalists and experts participated in the group, and there was a lively debate between Professor Takahashi and the participants. In particular, there was an extensive discussion about evaluations of the Christian Takashi Nagai's interpretation of the atomic bombing that suggested Urakami [in the center of the bombing site] was a "sacrificial lamb" and its link to the concept that "Hiroshima rages, Nagasaki prays" as well as the "two-tier structure" of Nagasaki. In addition, the "Mitsubishi problem" in Nagasaki was raised, and identified as a theme that will be addressed in future meetings of the research group.

The term of the research group's activities will run for two years, FY2017 and FY2018, and it is planned that it will be convened twice a year. The next meeting has been slated for December 2017.

Activities of the Nagasaki Youth Delegation in Vienna

Nine members of the Fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation participated in the First Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in Vienna from May 2 to May 12 this year. While in Vienna the Delegation listened to the proceedings of the Review Conference, held an autonomous workshop at the UN headquarters in Vienna in collaboration with university students from South Korea, a visiting lecture to the Japanese School in Vienna (Japanische Schule in Wien), visited international institutions located in the city, and exchanged opinions with diplomats gathered at the Review Conference, NGO stakeholders and other young people. The delegation spent each day energetically on their various activities. Please take a look at the following blog for more details of the activities: conducted.



Blog URL:
<http://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/youth-blog-2017>

Reaffirming the importance of education

Hanako Mitsuoka (4th year student, Faculty of Education, Nagasaki University)

On May 5 we held a visiting lecture at the Japanese School In Vienna. The audiences for the lectures were split into two groups: 19 1st to 3rd grade elementary school children and 21 children from the 4th grade of elementary school to the third grade of junior high school. I delivered the lecture to the younger group. I tried to get across to the children the message that nuclear weapons are not some old story from the past but something that is still relevant to all us today, in the hope that they would feel something.

They all listened studiously while I spoke, and made me feel that I had to put every ounce of my energy into interacting with them when I saw the way these pure-hearted children looked at me. It reaffirmed within me a sense of mission, a sense that wishing for a better future is certainly not just for we adults, but out of consideration for all of the children sitting before me.

I was reminded again of the importance of education; because it is education that will be a paramount factor in whether or not these children will be able to go on to build a peaceful world.

Having gone through this experience I now think that I would like to found an organization that will carry out this work for more and more children, and provide this education for a wider sphere of people. I have been stimulated by meeting many people who still firmly believe that some time a world free of nuclear weapons will arrive, have kept up their hopes and continued to act accordingly. I hope that in the near future I too will be able to become a person who can have an influence other people.

Feeling a world movement at first hand

Tamaki Sakai (2nd year student, Department of Comparative Culture, Faculty of Humanities, Nagasaki Junshin Catholic University)

Having spent some time in Vienna, listened to the pro-

ceedings of the Review Conference and taken part in various side events what I feel is that I have grown as a person through “encounters” with many different people. How many people did I meet at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna? In addition to actually listening to the proceedings of the Review Conference and gaining an immediate feeling for the opinions of the various countries, during our two weeks or so in Vienna I met a vast number of people including government officials, the personnel of international organizations and NGOs, as well as university students of the same age and high school students. This has enabled me to widen my own international perspective and grow even more as a person.

Of all the events I attended, the one that remains most clearly etched upon my memory was the short briefing of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Thanks to the help of numerous people on this visit I was able to see and experience things that it would normally be impossible to be a part of.

We had learned about the IAEA before visiting Vienna, but now I was finally able to see and experience demonstrations featuring the equipment actually used by the IAEA, and I was able to see in a new light the importance of the role played by this international organization.

This was also because during the Review Conference so many nations voiced the opinion that the actions of international organizations including the IAEA are also imperative. And this is why I felt, through our actual experiencing of this sort of work and sometimes asking searching questions, a renewed sense that this job is a vital step in progressing towards non-nuclear proliferation.

We, the members of the fifth delegation, learned and experienced much by meeting such an array of people, and have become able to think for ourselves, with a refreshed sense, about the contemporary nuclear situation. And it is for this reason that I believe the members of the Fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation will continue its activities enthusiastically and that all its members will seek to further improve themselves as people.

Dispatches from Nagasaki No.20

Global High-level Movement Conference on Nuclear Weapons in Nagasaki

Fumihiko Yoshida (Vice Director, RECNA)

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement co-hosted the Global High-level Movement Conference on Nuclear Weapons in Nagasaki, over a three-day period from April 24 to April 26, 2017. Co-hosted with the Japan Red Cross Society (JRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the event was participated in by the representatives of organizations from 35 nations, Ambassador Elayne Whyte Gómez of Costa Rica (who is the new president of the United Nations Conference to negotiate a nuclear weapon ban), and other diplomats involved in the negotiations.

The Nagasaki conference adopted “the Nagasaki Declaration,” under the title of “Never again: Nagasaki must be the last atomic bombing.” The Nagasaki Action Plan was also formulated in order to back-up the efforts to realize a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty, and it is scheduled that the plan will be formally adopted at the next Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which will be held in Antalya, Turkey, in November this year.

The Nagasaki Declaration demanded the participation of all nations in the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, which was scheduled to be held in New York in June and July this year, with the words: “All nations have a responsibility to their populations and to future generations to faithfully use this opportunity to shape the course of history.” Furthermore, it urged that: “We are standing at the brink of what will be the turning point in efforts to end the era of nuclear weapons. By negotiating and adopting a treaty that recognizes the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons and contains a clear and unambiguous prohibition, States have the opportunity to ensure that Nagasaki is the last place in history to have suffered the effects of an atomic bombing.”

(http://www.jrc.or.jp/information/170426_004754.html (in Japanese))

The activities guidelines of the Action Plan aim to achieve the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons over the next four years. The rough draft prepared in Nagasaki included the following three goals: 1) the Red Cross societies in each nation will enter into dialog with their respective governments and seek to encourage their participation in the nuclear prohibition negotiations; 2) the Red Cross societies will play a role of encouraging momentum towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty, and 3) support will be provided to enhance the perception of young people concerning nuclear weapons, and activities concerning the abolition of nuclear weapons involving young people.

(<http://digital.asahi.com/articles/ASK4V52CDK4VTOLB00F.html> (in Japanese))

I myself also had an opportunity to give a lecture at the Conference. Ever since the 20th century The Red Cross has made huge achievements in contributing to the en-

actment of international humanitarian legislation. As a player in the movement for the abolition of nuclear weapons too, it has resolutely and boldly argued from a humanitarian stance. Bringing together the leaders of The Red Cross in Nagasaki, the Conference was a precious forum, and the following is what I had to say.

Firstly, I explained that all the hibakusha, the relics remaining on the bombing site and all the people who still live their daily lives there represent a global power that sends out an endless appeal for the end of nuclear weapons to the rest of the world. Secondly, because of this, a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty should be worded either in its main text or related documents in a manner that encourages political leaders and those drafting or making policies to visit the sites of the atomic bombings. Finally, I suggested that even if the Japanese government is yet to participate in the treaty at the signatory stage, the signing ceremony should be held in Nagasaki. The venue was full of personnel from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement who nodded in agreement as I spoke. And seated in the very back row was none other than Ambassador Elayne Whyte Gómez herself.

Students belonging to the Nagasaki Youth Delegation whose activities are supported by the PCU Nagasaki Council for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (PCU-NC), which was established by Nagasaki Prefecture, Nagasaki City and Nagasaki University, were also present at the venue to help answer questions from participants, listening to and dealing with queries addressed to them in a variety of English accents. I thought that they had taken on a tough job, but they drew a warm round of applause from all those assembled. Even after the end of the conference the students found themselves surrounded by senior figures from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

On the day after the conference had finished, totally out of coincidence many of the guests at the conference were lined up next to me on the aircraft bound for Tokyo. They told me what a valuable experience their visit to Nagasaki had been. At the press conference held on the last day of the conference, Kathleen Lawand, legal advisor to the International Committee of the Red Cross said: “The conference was held at the time of the historic turning point of a nuclear-weapons-ban treaty, with the attendance of the representatives of many nations. It was a truly significant event.” It was no surprise that she left Nagasaki with the comment that “This was a visit that will remain deeply etched on my memory.”



Volume 6, No. 1 June, 2017

Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University

1-14 Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki, 852-8521, JAPAN

Tel. +81-95-819-2164 Fax. +81-95-819-2165

RECNA Newsletter

長崎大学核兵器廃絶研究センター

Vol. 6 No. 2 September 2017

On the passing away of Dr. Hideo Tsuchiyama

Susumu Shirabe (Special Aid to the President of Nagasaki University)

Dr. Hideo Tsuchiyama passed away on September 2. This sudden and sad news was all the more shocking as I had recently felt that he might be able to soon return home after a long period in hospital.

The first time that I met Dr. Tsuchiyama was when I was studying overseas at the National Institutes of Health of the USA, and he treated myself and a few other overseas students from Nagasaki University to dinner while he was on an overseas trip as the President of the university. I will never forget his cheerful expression as he chatted with us about the future of Nagasaki University and the fascination of conducting researches.

Dr. Tsuchiyama was a leading presence in the movement to abolish nuclear weapons; from the point of view of RECNA he was our founding father, a man who shone a torch on the path that we should follow. He was also a member of the preparatory committee that organized RECNA's establishment, and as a matter of course he subsequently participated in our operations as an advisor.

RECNA has nurtured the concept of a Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone and set up a panel in order to achieve this goal. It has also fostered numerous young people and sent them to NPT Review Process.

The international situation concerning denuclearization has suddenly started to move with the adoption by the United Nations of Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and we now face a critical moment in time.



Dr. Tsuchiyama speaking at the inaugurating symposium of RECNA (April 18, 2012, Ryojun Conference Hall, Photo by RECNA)

I would like us all to move forwards while cherishing these words of Dr. Tsuchiyama in our hearts: "Carefully approach our efforts with intellect and sensitivity as if they were the twin wheels of a vehicle."

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted by a majority

Keiko Nakamura (Associate Professor, RECNA)

On July 7, 2017, the United Nations conference in New York to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons adopted an international treaty that demands the complete outlawing of all such weapons¹. The results were 122 nations in favor, one against (the Netherlands) and one abstention (Singapore).

The conference had two sessions, from March 27 to 31 and June 15 to July 7, in line with the December 23, 2016 resolution A/71/258 of the UN General Assembly, with the participation of around 130 nations. The nine

nuclear possessing states and the nations reliant on the "nuclear umbrella" (with the exception of the Netherlands, a NATO member) boycotted the meeting. On March 27, Nobushige Takamizawa, Japanese ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament, took the rostrum at the United Nations and took the unprecedented step of declaring that Japan would take no further part, saying "Regrettably, given the present circumstances, we must say that it would be difficult for Japan to participate in this conference in a constructive manner and in good faith."

The adopted Treaty prohibits nations from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, possessing or stockpiling nuclear weapons or other explosive devices, the transfer of such weapons or devices, their use or threat to use them, or allowing them to be stationed, installed or deployed on their territory. In particular, the prohibition of the use or threat to use these weapons greatly damages the policy of relying upon them pursued by governments under the nuclear umbrella. The Treaty also stipulates aid and environmental restoration for the victims of the use or testing of nuclear weapons and the places they inhabit.

As demonstrated by the way that the hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and those exposed to nuclear tests all over the world are specified in the preamble of the Treaty, the Treaty is built on the bedrock of an international recognition of the inhumanity and risks related to nuclear weapons, and draws a roadmap from the prohibition of nuclear weapons to their outright abolition. The aim for the time being of the advocate nations of the Treaty including Austria, Mexico, Ireland, South Africa and Brazil, and the civil society who back them, is to establish an international norms opposed to the possession and use of nuclear weapons. In other words, they wish to encourage moves to see nuclear weapons “stigmatized,” attempt to enliven the stagnating reality of present nuclear disarmament by nullifying the justification of these weapons as a deterrence policy, and trying to push ahead and make progress.

On the other hand, the nations “reliant” on nuclear weapons have turned their back on this trend and are becoming increasingly recalcitrant. The United States, the United Kingdom and France have all clearly stated that they have no intention of signing and ratifying the treaty now or in the future. It should be noted that these three nations reiterated the necessity of nuclear weapons while

mentioning the nuclear umbrella policy and asserting in a joint press statement that: “Accession to the ban treaty is incompatible with the policy of nuclear deterrence, which has been essential to keeping the peace in Europe and North Asia for over 70 years .”

The United States has always claimed the need to provide its allies with the nuclear umbrella as the basis of its argument to secure the justification of its own possession of nuclear weapons. This forms the basis of President Barack Obama’s Prague speech, too. This fact means, in other words, that if the nations reliant on the nuclear umbrella start to change the direction of their policies, it will be possible to demolish one of the main points of the argument in favor of justifying the possession of nuclear weapons.

The current circumstances surrounding the nuclear situation in North Korea provide ample evidence that nuclear deterrence in Asia has not resulted in the “maintenance of peace,” and we have now reached the time in which the Japanese government must calmly examine the merits and demerits of the nuclear deterrence policy. The Treaty will be opened for signature from September 20, and will be considered effective upon the ratification of the 50th nation. The direction followed by those nations under the nuclear umbrella, including Japan, is becoming a more and more vital issue.

<http://www.undocs.org/en/a/conf.229/2017/L.3/Rev.1>
<https://usun.state.gov/remarks/7892>

¹ In response to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons RECNA has prepared a policy paper concerning its historic significance and the future issues to be faced, entitled The Significance of and Issues concerning the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. The entire document can be viewed at the following web pages of our website: <http://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/topics/16841>

2nd Meeting of the Panel on Peace and Security of Northeast Asia held in Ulaanbaatar

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

The 2nd meeting of PSNA (Panel on Peace and Security of Northeast Asia) took place in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on June 24 and 25, 2017. The meeting was co-hosted by RECNA and Blue Banner, a local NGO, with the cooperation of the Northeast Asia Group of the Asia Pacific Leadership Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (APLN). One of the reasons that the meeting was held in Mongolia this time was that it would have enabled the participation of North Korea. However, despite an invitation being sent to the North Korean government, in the end they unfortunately did not participate. The meeting consisted of four sessions in which there were lively exchanges of opinion on the topics of: the nuclear policy of the new Trump administration; the future of negotiations on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons; issues regarding realization of the Northeast Asia Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone (NEA-NWFZ) Treaty; and the issues on civilian nuclear program in Northeast Asian nations.

During the meeting a press conference was held at



Participants in front of the Continental Hotel, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
 (June 25, 2017, Photo by RECNA)

which a joint declaration was made by the four joint chairs of the event, Professor Morton H. Halperin, Professor Michael Hamel-Green, Professor Chung-in Moon

and Visiting Professor Hiromichi Umebayashi. The joint declaration made the following four proposals: 1) the related nations should avoid any action that could be misperceived and lead to war, and either the Six Party Talks convened by China or bilateral talks must be restarted as a matter of urgency; 2) the discussions of the related nations should not simply be confined to the North Korean nuclear and missile programs but should be extended to cover a wider agenda of a peace and security issues in Northeast Asia, for example, a treaty to conclude the Korean War, establishment of the NEA-NWFZ, and the establishment of a forum for all the nations in the region to discuss security; 3) the “restarting of dialog” between senior government officials is welcomed, and must take place immediately, and 4) there is a need for further examination of the effect upon the

region, its security and all aspects of the introduction of defense missile systems such as THAADs. The full Japanese text of the statement can be viewed on these web pages: <http://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/psnaactivities/16578>

It was proposed that the 3rd Meeting should be held in either Russia or Seoul, and this will be examined while eagerly hoping for the realization of participation by the North Korean government. The publication of papers resulting from the meeting, and papers analyzing the gist of the meeting in Nagasaki University’s new English language journal, the Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament, will be encouraged, and it was decided that the RECNA website will be improved and its ability to communicate enhanced.

2017 Nagasaki Peace Declaration: Make Nagasaki the last place to suffer an atomic bombing

Satoshi Hirose (Vice Director, RECNA)

This year’s Nagasaki Peace Declaration began with a powerful call towards achieving the goal of “a world free of nuclear weapons,” following the adoption of the text of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It showed just how eagerly the atomic bombing site of Nagasaki had been waiting for this treaty. Now the long-hoped for prohibition of nuclear weapons has finally been put forward in the concrete form of an international treaty, the sense of joy is something that almost verges on the indescribable.

However, as mentioned in the Declaration, this is not the end of the matter; the fact remains that specific goals have yet to be set and the road towards them is a long and thorny one. Above all, the Japanese government itself is rejecting the Treaty. First of all we have to respond to sharp comments from abroad that before appealing to the world for the abolition of nuclear weapons we should perhaps persuade our own government. In order to do so, we need to thoroughly reexamine the stance that the Japanese government has repeatedly emphasized of “balancing humanitarian considerations with national security,” and prove that this balance is now overwhelmingly leaning in the direction of abolishing nuclear weapons. From this perspective, it must be said that the text of this year’s declaration encourages us, the staff of RECNA that we bear an ever-greater responsibility.

Furthermore, this year’s Declaration used language clearer than in previous years with regard to the serious issue of handing down to subsequent generations all the experiences of those who suffered from the atomic bombing. We have very recently lost Sumiteru Taniguchi, the chairman of the Nagasaki Council of A-Bomb Sufferers, and RECNA advisor Dr. Hideo Tsuchiyama, who were both hibakusha and who had continued to play leading roles in the movement towards the abolition of nuclear weapon. The number of people who can actually speak from firsthand experience about the inhumanity of nuclear weapons is dwindling in Hiroshima and in Nagasaki. Obviously a variety of efforts are being made to hand down the experiences of hibakusha to younger generations, but the fact that there are fewer people who can recount the horrors of nuclear weapons today is a critical state of affairs.

Looking at the problem of North Korea’s development of nuclear material and missiles I can only feel a sense of suspicion that the recent catchword of “nuclear deterrence through security” is being used in a very facile manner. Do the words “nuclear deterrence,” a security based on the terror inherent in nuclear weapons, really assure the security of the public? This year’s Nagasaki Peace Declaration presents the necessity of seriously questioning this notion again, sparked by the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Dispatches from Nagasaki No.21

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

Peace Declaration and Mayors for Peace Nagasaki Appeal

On August 9, 2017, the day that marked the 72nd year since the atomic bombing of Nagasaki, the Mayor of Nagasaki City once again read out the Peace Declaration at the Peace memorial Ceremony (<http://nagasakipeace.jp/english/appeal/archives.html>). This year the majority of the declaration concerned the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was adopted by the United Na-

tions in July. Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue started by praising the years of tireless effort made by the hibakusha, describing the Treaty as “a moment when all the efforts of the hibakusha over the years finally took shape.” He also expressed his gratitude for civil society and the non-nuclear nations, saying: “I would also like to express our profoundest gratitude to all of the nations that promote this treaty, the United Nations, NGOs and

others who have acted with such vigorous determination and courage.” On the other hand, the Mayor appealed to the nations that have declared that they will not participate in the Treaty and those nations under the nuclear umbrella to review their nuclear policies, particularly the Japanese government, for whom he had some harsh words of criticism: “its stance of not even participating in the diplomatic negotiations for the Nuclear Prohibition Treaty is quite incomprehensible to those of us living in the cities that suffered the atomic bombing.”

The message delivered by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe contained no reference to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons at all, indeed he could be seen as actually criticizing the treaty when he said: “in order to truly realize “a world free of nuclear weapons,” it is essential for both nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states to participate. Japan, firmly upholding the “Three Non-Nuclear Principles,” is determined to take the lead within the international community by urging both kinds of states to participate .”

When Koichi Kawano, chairman of the Hibakusha Liaison Council of the Nagasaki Prefectural Peace Movement Center, who has listened with a sense of disappointment to the Prime Minister’s speech, came face-to-face with Mr. Abe at an event after the ceremony he asked him point-blank: “What country’s prime minister

are you? Are you going to abandon us?” (Tokyo Shimbun, August 10, 2017: <http://www.tokyo-np.co.jp/article/politics/list/201708/CK2017081002000130.html> (Japanese only))

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace was also held from August 7 (Monday) to August 10 (Thursday), 2017. A total of 186 people from 150 cities, 16 people from the governments of 11 nations, and 17 people from nine NGOs and other organizations participated in the general conference. On August 10 the Nagasaki Appeal (http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statement/appeal/pdf/9th_nagasaki_appeal_en.pdf) and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons (http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/data/9th_meeting/Nagasaki_special_resolution_E.pdf) were both announced.

In addition to the earliest participation in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, The Nagasaki Appeal also urged in the strongest terms that all governments should “make efforts to address global issues that deprive human beings of dignity and “make efforts to create a culture of peace and offer opportunities to more people to learn, be aware of, and realize the harsh reality of atomic bombings and wars.”

Reaction to the 6th nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

On September 3 North Korea conducted its sixth nuclear test. In reaction to this the Mayor of Nagasaki City and the Nagasaki City Assembly sent a co-signed letter of protest to Kim Jong-un, Chairman of the Worker’s Party of Korea (http://nagasakipeace.jp/japanese/abolish/protest/kogi_list/77.html).

The letter of protest described how “there is great anger brewing in Nagasaki,” and stated that: “On behalf of the city of Nagasaki, we protest against the DPRK’s nuclear test in the strongest possible terms.”

Five other hibakusha organizations also sent letters of protest to Kim Jong-un on September 4th. The letters of

protest expressed their strong sense of distaste with the words “We protest with a heartfelt anger.” (Sankei Shimbun, September 4, 2017 (Japanese only):<http://www.sankei.com/west/news/170904/wst1709040059-n1.html>.) Moreover, on September 5 hibakusha and citizens of Nagasaki City staged a sit-in protest in front of the Peace Memorial Statue in Nagasaki Peace Park (Matsuyama-machi). Around 60 people took part, unveiling banners with messages such as “We protest against North Korea’s nuclear tests” and “Make reality of nuclear weapons abolition and total arms reductions.” (Jiji Press, September 5, 2017 (Japanese only): <https://www.jiji.com/jc/article?k=2017090400826&g=soc>)

Nagasaki University announces launch of English language academic journal

On September 4 Nagasaki University announced the launch of an English language academic journal focusing on the topic of nuclear arms reductions. Nagasaki University President Shigeru Katamine emphasized the significance of the publication, saying: “I want it to be known just how terrible the effects of nuclear weapons use are through the presentation of scientific proof.” The publication has been named Journal for Peace and Nuclear

Disarmament, and the first edition is scheduled to be released in February 2018. Fumihiko Yoshida, Vice-Director of RECNA, who will serve as the Journal’s chief editor, told at press conference: “The Journal will communicate viewpoints and ways of thinking that are different from those of the nuclear states and the United States and Europe.” (Jiji Press, September 5 (Japanese only): <https://www.jiji.com/jc/article?k=2017090400826&g=soc>)



Volume 6, No. 2 September, 2017

Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University

1-14 Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki, 852-8521, JAPAN

Tel. +81-95-819-2164 Fax. +81-95-819-2165

RECNA Newsletter

長崎大学核兵器廃絶研究センター

Vol. 6 No. 3 December 2017

Open Symposium How to Confront the Nuclear Threat: Denuclearization and Security in North-East Asia

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

On November 23, 2017, the University of Tokyo's Policy Alternatives Research Institute (PARI) and RECNA jointly held a public symposium at the University of Tokyo under the above title. In this RECNA-led symposium, researchers from the University of Tokyo, Hiroshima City University, Hitotsubashi University and elsewhere built on the fruits of a Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research program, "Analysis of Promoting and Inhibiting Factors toward the Realization of Denuclearization and Security in North-East Asia" (FY2015-17), and discussed next steps in response to the nuclear threat and security of North-East Asia.

In the first part, RECNA's professors Suzuki and Hirose, on behalf the research team, presented the program's findings focused topically on the role of non-nuclear weapon states (but under a nuclear umbrella), "Track 2" (trust-generating measures by non-government organizations), and verification of nuclear disarmament. They announced that these findings will be published in March 2018 as RECNA series publication No.3, "How to Confront the Nuclear Threat: Denuclearization and Security in North-East Asia" (tentatively titled; editorial supervision by Kiichi Fujiwara and written and edited by Satoshi Hirose and Tatsujiro Suzuki).

In the second part, PARI director Kiichi Fujiwara, a project member and the editorial supervisor of the above publication, and Masakatsu Ota, RECNA visiting professor and Kyodo News editorial writer, joined a panel discussion presided by RECNA vice director Fumihiko Yoshida. The panel discussion opened with the role of nuclear weapons in the cur-



Dr. Suzuki speaking at the public symposium of RECNA (November 23, 2017, Tokyo University, Photo by RECNA)

rent security policy. "While the role of nuclear weapons has diminished, they are still relied upon in order to preserve the policy paths," Professor Fujiwara said. Professor Ota stated that systematic research and analysis about nuclear deterrence are needed. It then moved on to discuss Japan's security. Prof Fujiwara commented that while deterrence is needed, this would preferably be achieved through conventional weapons rather than nuclear weapons. On response to North Korea, Prof Fujiwara emphasized that the current diplomacy underway is not intimidation but coercion (bringing powerful sanctions and military pressure to bear on an adversary to change its policy), adding, "intimidation based on nuclear weapons will fail." Prof Ota stressed the importance of "Track 2" from RECNA research findings.

In the Q&A session including two RECNA professors, the audience raised many questions, about the verification of nuclear disarmament, Japan's non-nuclear defense policy and missile defense, and a very lively exchange ensued. We also thank the PARI for jointly hosting the symposium.

International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN):

My Insights as an Intern Jo Takeda, (4nd year Nagasaki University, Fourth Nagasaki Youth Delegation)

From late June through August 2017, I worked as an intern at the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). ICAN, as the name suggests, is an international non-government organization working energetically to abolish nuclear weapons. Much credited for the United Nations adoption this July of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, it won the Nobel Peace Prize.

I travelled to venues where the Treaty was negotiated, which gave me an opportunity to see ICAN in international conferences. I also saw ICAN up close in its day-to-day work, outside of international conferences. There I felt the importance of continuity.

ICAN is allowed to speak at these international conferences about nuclear weapons and, as an organization, has a lot of influence over them. I was always interested in learning how ICAN operates and why it has stature to speak at international conferences. What ICAN members were doing was to talk over tea with government delegates outside the conference hall. They approached individual delegates from different nations one by one, going over the terms of the Treaty so as to obtain their signatures in support of the ICAN positions. I had imagined something far more sophisticated but their actions were not. Initially I felt let down but, working as an intern, I came to understand that ICAN members, through their seemingly mundane efforts, were bonding personally with government stakeholders, gaining information unavailable through mere conference attendance, and exploring coopera-



ICAN staff visiting the Austrian parliament and attracting support from the assemblyman to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Photo by author on the left)

tion. Even when a conference had ended, it was business as usual for ICAN to follow up, by email and phone, with those countries that voted for the Treaty to make sure they were going to be signatories.

Much of what ICAN does is simple, straightforward networking. While such efforts may appear low profile, for the first decade since its foundation ICAN just kept at it, which led to such great accomplishments as the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons or the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize. My two months at ICAN made me fully appreciate the old dictum, continuity is strength. I continue to expect a lot from ICAN's low-profile campaign for a world without nuclear weapons.

Nagasaki Youth Delegation: Members of the Sixth Nagasaki Youth Delegation are Chosen

The organized by PCU-Nagasaki Conference is now in its sixth year and the eight following members of the Sixth Delegation have been selected. These delegates are set to attend the second Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference in Geneva in April-May 2018. They will be conducting a number of activities around that time to send out messages from Nagasaki for the abolishment of nuclear weapons.

Mitsuki Kudo, Third Year, Faculty of Global and Media Studies, Siebold University Siebold Campus

I was a member of the Forth Delegation. With renewed desires for actions toward the abolishment of nuclear weapons, I am coming aboard the Sixth Delegation. I want to acquire a wide variety of ideas and, through offsite lectures and other activities, share a lot with all of you.

Tamaki Sakai, Second Year, Faculty of Humanities,
Nagasaki Junshin Catholic University

I am continuing from the Fifth Delegation to the Sixth. So I want to turn my thoughts from the Fifth Delegation and related activities into concrete actions and be able to communicate my opinions to more people, more of my peers.

Son Mingyue, First Year, Graduate School of Global
Communication, University of Nagasaki

My name is Sun, a student from China. I am currently enrolled at University of Nagasaki's Graduate School of Global Communication. As a Nagasaki Youth member, I want to study and experience many things and explore my abilities.

Taiki Nakashima, Second Year, School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences, Nagasaki University

My name is Taiki Nakashima, a second year student in Nagasaki University's School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences. I want to utilize this opportunity to build foundation for a better future 10 or 100 years later.

Saki Nagae, Second Year, School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences, Nagasaki University

The world peace can never be an easy goal. But even in a world like ours, I want to try and do my part as a youth member and work toward that day in future when everyone around the globe can feel like they have been happy.

Rena Harada, Second Year, School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences, Nagasaki University

I came to Nagasaki for college. In this city, you have many opportunities to think about the nuclear problem or peace education and over time my desires to contribute to the abolishment of nuclear weapons and learn about international affairs grew gradually.

So I applied to become a Nagasaki Youth Delegation member. Through Youth activities, I want to learn the importance of civic movements and policies of different governments and enrich my insights about nuclear issues.

Atsumi Fukui, Second Year, School of Global Humanities and Social Sciences, Nagasaki University

As part of the Fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation, I participated last May in the first Preparatory Committee for the 2020 NPT Review Conference in Vienna. Now, as a member of the sixth delegation, I will draw from my experience and knowledge from last year and do more this year as an agent of peace!

Taiki Miura, Fourth Year, Faculty of Environmental Science, Nagasaki University

I grew up in Nagasaki and learned from peace education and my grandparents about the cruelty of war and the terror of nuclear weapons. Through this activity, I will acquire new knowledge but I also want to think about my role at various junctures and how I may contribute.

Dispatches from Nagasaki No.22

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

This year the Japanese government once again submitted to the UN General Assembly its Draft Resolution on Nuclear Disarmament, which was duly adopted. This marks the 24th consecutive year that Japan has submitted such a draft resolution. The draft resolution gained overwhelming support, including even the nuclear state of the US and UK, with 156 nations in favor, 4 against and 24 abstentions. Compared to last year's result (167 in favor, 4 against and 16 abstentions),

while those nations against the motion remained unchanged those in favor declined, their votes switching the abstainers. Looking back at the votes over the past decade, out of the ten votes the support of 170 or more nations was obtained on six occasions, and the number did not once fall behind the 160-vote mark. Neither did the number of abstainers exceed 20 nations. Little surprise then that the Nagasaki Shimbun carried the headline "Support for nuclear abolition proposal drops" in the October 28, 2017 edition.

Citing the reasons for this decline the Nagasaki Shimbun quoted from the interpretation made by the Kyodo Press Agency that the failure of the Japanese government's resolution to mention the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons passed in July, and the watering down of the wording of the text related to the inhumanity of nuclear weapons had created an impression that Japan's stance on nuclear disarmament has receded (Nagasaki Shimbun, October 28 edition). In fact, nations such as Austria, New Zealand, Costa Rica and Nigeria, that supported the resolution last year also signed the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, decided to abstain .

The Japanese government has long proudly insisted that it should act as a "conduit" that bridges the nuclear and non-nuclear nations. However, this year's draft resolution was considerably watered down compared to last year's. In particular, the removal of the word "any" from the text that last year read "the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons" hints that, although the use of nuclear weapons still raises humanitarian concerns, it could be open to the interpretation that exceptional use of nuclear weapons could be tolerated on humanitarian grounds. It was thus that RECNA director Tatsujiro Suzuki fiercely criticized the government in the October 20 edition of the Nagasaki Shimbun, saying: "It would hardly be surprising if the right of the Japanese government to talk about the abolition of nuclear weapons is called into question."

Speaking of the decision to award the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Japan's Foreign Minister, Taro Kono, issued a statement saying that: "The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that ICAN has supported is a different approach from that of the Japanese government, but we share the same goal of nuclear abolition. We will rebuild a relationship of trust between the nuclear and non-nuclear states and non-nuclear states in different security environments, and resolutely stick to the task of gaining the involve-

ment of the nuclear states in a realistic and practical manner." However, this year's Japanese draft resolution contains no new concrete suggestions towards the disarmament or abolition of nuclear weapons, and it would be extremely difficult to describe it as offering an alternative approach to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that the government is opposed to. Indeed, it is perfectly natural that nations calling for the same abolition of nuclear weapons have turned against Japan, which feebly calls for a "realistic approach" without even trying to show a persuasive alternative course of action, and is utterly uncooperative in the pursuit of nuclear disarmament on the grounds of a difficult security environment and its perceived need for nuclear deterrence. Meanwhile, fierce criticism of the Japanese government is being voiced in the atomic bombing site of Nagasaki.

However, there is still a large number of nations that support both the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and the Japanese government's draft resolution. While Japan still maintains the trust of these nations, if it is unable to put forward specific proposals for nuclear disarmament instead of listing all the issues in East Asia and emphasizing how they currently make nuclear disarmament impossible, Japan will inevitably be told that is no longer a nation in apposition to act as a "conduit" between the nuclear and non-nuclear states.



Volume 6, No. 3 December, 2017

Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University

1-14 Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki, 852-8521, JAPAN

Tel. +81-95-819-2164 Fax. +81-95-819-2165

RECNA Newsletter

長崎大学核兵器廃絶研究センター

Vol. 6 No. 4 March 2018

Ms. Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) Visits Nagasaki

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

Ms. Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN visited Nagasaki at the invitation of RECNA, from January 12 (Friday) to 14 (Sunday), 2018. This visit of Ms. Fihn's was arranged upon the instructions of Susumu Shirabe, Special Aide to the President of Nagasaki University, to invite Ms. Fihn to visit the university as soon as possible after ICAN's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize, in order that exchanges could be held between Ms. Fihn and hibakusha, citizens, and the youth of Nagasaki. Thanks to a kind assistance of Mr. Akira Kawasaki, a member of ICAN's International Steering Group (and also Executive Committee Member of Peace Boat), Ms. Fihn's visit was swiftly realized. It was the first time for Ms. Fihn to visit an atomic-bombed city and she carried out her tight schedule in an energetic manner.

On the first day of her visit, January 12, Ms. Fihn attended the opening ceremony of the exhibition "2017 Nobel Peace Prize Award Commemorative Exhibition: The Peace That We Create—the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is the International Norm." After the ceremony, she exchanged views over dinner with Dr. Shigeru Kohno, President of Nagasaki University, and other faculty members of the university and RECNA.

On the second day of her visit, January 13, Ms. Fihn laid flowers in the morning at the hypocenter. Following that, she visited the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum. It seems to have been a good opportunity for Ms. Fihn to be reminded of the reality of an atomic bombing. She later commented to journalists that the visit had left a deep impression on her. After that



Ms. Beatrice Finn, Executive Director of ICAN and Mr. Akira Kawasaki, Member of ICAN's International Steering Committee, dedicating a wreath at the Ground Zero
(13 January 2018, Photo by Nagasaki City)

Ms. Fihn took part in the main event, the special Nagasaki citizens seminar titled "The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons—Where do we go from here? A Message from Nagasaki." The seminar was hosted by RECNA with the joint sponsorship of PCU-Nagasaki Council and the Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for Elimination of Nuclear Weapons. Before an audience of over 300 people, Ms. Fihn delivered a keynote speech and took part in a panel discussion held with Mr. Akira Kawasaki, Dr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens Assembly for Elimination of Nuclear Weapons (and also Visiting Professor at RECNA), and Mr. Nobuharu Imanishi, the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Division, Disarmament, Non-Proliferation and Science Department, the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs. At the reception party held in the evening, Ms. Fihn was able to deepen exchanges with local citizens groups as well as members of the prefectural and city assemblies, and the youth of Nagasaki.

On the third day of her visit, January 14, together with Mr. Kawasaki, Ms. Fihn took part in a youth symposium titled “Talk Session with Ms. Beatrice Fihn: Abolishing Nuclear Weapons and the Role of Youth” with about 50 local university and high school students, mostly young people including the members of the Nagasaki Youth Delegation. Ms. Fihn gave an impressive speech at the youth symposium (see article by Ms. Hanako Mitsuoka on page 3). Later, Ms. Fihn and Mr. Kawasaki had a frank exchange of opinions over lunch with RECNA faculty members and we discussed future collaborative activities between ICAN and the RECNA. After that Ms. Fihn continued on to Hiroshima and Tokyo, energetically fulfilling her demanding schedule before leaving Japan on January 18

(Thursday). In Hiroshima the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, and in Tokyo the Peace Boat and the Japan NGO Network for Nuclear Weapons Abolition acted as the host organizations and kindly worked to arrange her schedule and set up meetings. I would like to express my sincere thanks to those concerned for their cooperation.

As can be seen from the above, Ms. Fihn’s visit to Japan and to Nagasaki was even more fruitful and left an even greater impression than had been anticipated. In conclusion I should like to quote some words from Ms. Fihn that made the strongest impression on me.

“The prime minister is not the boss. You, the citizens, are the boss. The government (the prime minister) has an obligation to listen to and respond to the voices of the citizens, so let’s raise our voices together so that we can be heard.”

Nuclear Deterrence and Citizens

Satoshi Hirose (Vice-Director, RECNA)

Through her visit to the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum and other sites Ms. Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN, made her first visit to an atomic-bombed city, an experience that appeared to make her even more aware of the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and further strengthen her resolve towards abolishing nuclear weapons. Ms. Fihn participated in the Special Nagasaki Citizens Seminar titled “How to best use the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons—A Message from Nagasaki” which was held at the Atomic Bomb Museum on January 13. There she emphasized that Japan, the only country to have experienced atomic bombing during wartime, should exercise strong leadership in efforts to bring about the abolition of nuclear weapons. Ms. Fihn also said that in the end it was appeals by hibakusha which moved people’s hearts and led to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. She claimed that therefore the hibakusha should be thought of as joint recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize, in acknowl-



Ms. Beatrice Finn, Executive Director of ICAN, speaking at the Nagasaki Citizens Seminar (13 January 2018, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, Photo by RECNA)

edgement of their contributions. In today’s democratic society the earnest wish and indeed insistence by citizens, including hibakusha, on the abolition of nuclear weapons is what moves countries and makes the abolition of these weapons a possibility, she said.

However, Ms. Fihn unsurprisingly cast doubt upon the Japanese government which seems to have taken

a definite opposing stance to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Especially during the panel discussion, not only Ms. Fihn but also panelists Mr. Akira Kawasaki, a member of ICAN's International Steering Group, and Dr. Masao Tomonaga, Visiting Professor at RECNA, together with citizens who were part of the audience, criticized the Japanese government's stance and voiced their doubts one after another. Under the Japan-US security arrangements, and in light of the harsh reality of North Korea's development of nuclear weapons and China's military expansion, the Japanese government has repeatedly stated that it has no intention of making any changes to its existing stance, i.e., any policies that would be incompatible with the United States "nuclear umbrella" are not possible. During negotiations for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Japan declined to participate for these same reasons and also voted against the adoption of the treaty in the United Nations.

Through the seminar, it became clear how big a gap exists between on one side the countries seeking to abolish nuclear weapons and their inhumanity, the voices of citizens that are growing louder in the international community as represented by ICAN, which

seek to abolish nuclear weapons, and on the other side the stance of the Japanese government that supports security policies that depend on the power of nuclear deterrence. In addition, the difficulty of trying to dissuade countries such as Japan and the United States from relying on nuclear deterrence also stood out clearly. In order to convince the Japanese government and encourage it to participate in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the argument of nuclear deterrence which forms the base of the Japanese government's assertion needs to be fundamentally reviewed. In the debriefing with the RECNA faculty after the seminar, Ms. Fihn mentioned that there was a certain limit as to how much support could be gathered for the treaty through campaigns. She pointed out the importance of trying to convince those countries opposing the treaty to change their stance through theoretical discussions from a technical perspective. Then, from that standpoint, Ms. Fihn acknowledged how collaboration between citizens' activities seeking to abolish nuclear weapons and researchers whose field of expertise is nuclear disarmament, is essential in bringing about the abolition of nuclear weapons.

"I want to be the kind of person who continues to have hope" From the Talk Session with Ms. Beatrice Fihn

Hanako Mitsuoka (4th Year, Faculty of Education Nagasaki University / Fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation)

I want to be the kind of person who continues to have hope for the future, just like Ms. Fihn.

This is what I felt the strongest during the talk session held recently with Ms. Beatrice Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN.

I currently hold the post of representative of the Team Peace Caravan, a voluntary student organization. Last October my fellow students and I set up this organization and we offer classes in peace education where we go and visit schools in various locations. We carry out our activities with our team of fourteen members who are each highly individualistic. The predecessor activities of our Team Peace Caravan are those activities begun by the



Ms. Beatrice Finn, Executive Director of ICAN and Mr. Akira Kawasaki, Member of ICAN's International Steering Committee, exchanging views with local students

(14 January 2018, Ryojun Conference Hall, Photo by Nagasaki City)

Fourth Nagasaki Youth Delegation members, and this year marks the third year since initiation. As of 20 February, 2018, we have provided talks and classes for a total of 3,540 students at 34 locations. I intend to be involved in these activities in the future too and ultimately want to make this a place where many students can gain lots of experiences. I hope to offer lots of people the chance to think about peace and nuclear weapons.

I first became involved in peace activities last year, when I was in my third year at university and I became a member of the Fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation. My start came fairly late but what really drew me to this field was the opportunity to visit New York in March 2017 to participate in the First Sessions of the United Nations Conference to Negotiate the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

What I experienced then firsthand, was the reality of how people went beyond any boundaries of nationality or status to unite for the same goal of banning nuclear weapons and becoming a force to change the world. When I saw with my own eyes how various people from NGOs and citizens organizations gave powerful speeches, not only did they seem totally dependable but also I felt it was my mission to convey their passionate and strong ideas to the next generation.

During the talk session with Ms. Fihn, Executive Director of ICAN, who made such a great contribution to the successful adoption of the treaty, I was greatly encouraged. All of the members of ICAN, including Ms. Fihn, are still fairly young. Although I myself believe that I understand the role of young people as well as their importance, even though I have decided to continue the Team Peace Caravan activities I also feel the reality that not many young people will feel able to follow *peace work* as an option for their future. When we express our ideas we are criticized and told that we will not be able to make a living through *peace*. When I told Ms. Fihn about how frustrated I felt, she totally empathized with me. Then she said that the secret weapons of young people are hope, energy to remain positive about anything, and social media that connects the entire world. So I thought that I would try to connect with other people around the world who share the same vision as me and try to do whatever it is that I can accomplish as a *person*.

The path that I am trying to take is not stable and neither can I continue on it simply with good intentions. I am



Ms. Beatrice Finn, Executive Director of ICAN and Mr. Akira Kawasaki, Member of ICAN's International Steering Committee, exchanging views with local students (14 January, 2018, Ryojun Conference Hall, Photo by RECNA)

sometimes told that the prohibition and abolition of nuclear weapons is merely an ideal. However, there are many other adults who have gone before me and I feel encouraged by seeing how hard they have worked. There are people with passionate and strong ideas like Ms. Fihn and the hibakusha who have continued, one after another, keeping up the fight for peace. Soon will come the day when there will be no more hibakusha or people alive who actually survived that war. I keep on thinking about what it is that we as the younger generation can do. However, I will not be young forever. That is why I would like to be the kind of person who continues to have hope, in this moment now and in the future too.

Dispatches from Nagasaki No.23

The Reaction in Atomic-bombed Cities to the Trump Administration Nuclear Posture Review

Satoshi Hirose (Vice-Director, RECNA)

The United States Department of Defense released the Trump administration Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) in February 2018. In line with the concerns shared by many people, the content was in direct contrast with that of the Obama administration NPR which had been based on reducing the role of nuclear weapons. Instead the Trump administration seeks to strengthen America's nuclear strategies. In particular, the administration agrees with the use of nuclear weapons against conventional weapons and its proposal to pursue development of small-sized nuclear weapons for that purpose came as a shock to many people.

Harsh criticism of the Trump administration NPR was also voiced in Nagasaki, after it was released. Nagasaki City Mayor Tomihisa Taue said that the review runs counter to efforts by the international community and atomic-bombed cities to abolish nuclear weapons, such as adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Nagasaki Shimbun, February 4, 2018 edition). Likewise, Hiroshima City Mayor Kazumi Matsui also commented that the NPR is contrary to moves in the international community and that he urges President Trump to visit the atomic-bombed cities and to aim for a world free of nuclear weapons (Nagasaki Shimbun, February 4 edition). Toyochi Ihara, President of the Society of Hibakusha Certificate Holders of Nagasaki Prefecture, said he thought that the NPR seemed to be discouraging efforts to abolish nuclear weapons and that it was contrary to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as well as opposing the organization which received the Nobel Peace Prize for advocating to abolish nuclear weapons (Nishi Nihon Shimbun, February 4 edition). These comments represent the candid opinions of many of the citizens of Nagasaki.

With regard to the Trump administration NPR, even though the US Department of Defense is pitching it as "strengthening deterrence," Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA), says it has increased

the risk of using nuclear weapons and expanded that role, and that China and Russia may end up following the United States down the path to expanded nuclear armament (Nagasaki Shimbun, February 4 edition). Severe criticism continued with remarks from Dr. Masakatsu Ota, senior editorial writer at Kyodo News and Visiting Professor at RECNA, who said that China and Russia may both react to this movement by the Trump administration resulting in a risk that the nuclear arms race could flare up again, while North Korea will probably attempt to justify its possession of nuclear arms even more (Nagasaki Shimbun, February 7 edition). The possibility of using nuclear weapons in the escalation of regional conflicts with conventional weapons was mentioned by Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, with regard to the conflict in Ukraine in 2015. This provoked a strong reaction from Japan and the international community at large. However, the Trump administration's NPR means that the United States is following along the same lines as Russia and may use nuclear weapons in the future. The logic behind the United States showing the possible use of nuclear weapons in attacks aimed at regional conflicts or limited nuclear war is that it will strengthen deterrence. However, the new development of small-sized nuclear weapons for dealing with such a situation means that the United States is advancing preparations to deal with limited nuclear war and the possibility has arisen again of limited nuclear war on a regional level that will not impact upon the mainland, the type of war which Europe was fearful of during the Cold War era. To be honest, it is extremely difficult to understand how this results in reducing the risk of using nuclear weapons.

The Trump administration NPR has been favorably received by the Japanese government which has shown a supportive stance to the United States. Mayor Taue urged Japan, as the only country which experienced atomic bombing during the war, not to follow in the footsteps of the United States (Nagasaki Shimbun, February 4 edition). Dr. Masao Tomonaga, Honorary Di-

rector of the Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital and Visiting Professor at RECNA, remarked that he was appalled more than angry, and that if things continue like this, the relations between countries that possess nuclear weapons and those that do not, will not get closer (Nishi Nippon Shimbun, February 4 edition). He also expressed concerns that as the Japanese government showed such swift support for this NPR, Japan's position as a mediator between countries that possess nuclear weapons and those that do not will be damaged.

The former Obama administration touted "A World Free of Nuclear Weapons" and even if it was not quite satisfactory, that administration showed a positive attitude towards advancing nuclear disarmament. However, directly after Trump's inauguration there was talk in Nagasaki of worries that nuclear disarmament would undergo a setback in light of the Trump administration's frequent statements which attached a great deal of importance to military power. Unfortunately, the content of this NPR has shown those worries have become a reality.



Volume 6, No. 4 March, 2018

Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University

1-14 Bunkyo-machi, Nagasaki, 852-8521, JAPAN

Tel. +81-95-819-2164 Fax. +81-95-819-2165
