

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Opening Ceremony Keynote Speech

August 8 (Tue), 2017 9:45-11:00

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Hand bell Performance:

Tachibana Junior High School Hand bell Club COSMOS

Messages and Addresses:

Kazumi Matsui

President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan
(Delivered by the Secretary General of Mayors for Peace)

Tomihisa Taue

Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

Hodo Nakamura

Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture, Japan

Elayne Whyte Gómez

Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the UN Office at Geneva
(Video Message)

Keynote Speech: “The Imperatives for Disarmament in the 21st Century”

Izumi Nakamitsu

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for
Disarmament Affairs

MC

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for waiting. Hand bell Club COSMOS from Tachibana Junior High School of Nagasaki is going to play the hand bell.

Hand bell Performance:

Tachibana Junior High School Hand bell Club COSMOS

Hello, we are from Tachibana Junior High School Hand bell Club. Our school is located on the east side of Nagasaki City. Our school is surrounded by nature. For example, we can see the Bay of Tachibana and Mt. Fugen from our school. There are a total of 506 students, and we spend our school life enjoying various club activities. Our hand bell club has 14 members and we practice hard every day.

We appreciate the chance to perform at this conference today. Today, we will perform Pachelbel's *Canon*, Shokichi Kina's *Hana—subete no hito no kokoro ni hanawo*, and Masaharu Fukuyama's *Kusunoki*. Masaharu Fukuyama is a musician from Nagasaki. *Kusunoki* is a type of tree that is grown in Nagasaki's Sanno Shrine. Sanno Shrine is located 800 meters from the hypocenter. On August 9, 1945, when the atomic bomb was dropped, the *kusunoki* tree lost a part of its trunk. However, over time, the tree sprouted again. The tree's recovery encouraged those who were injured by the atomic bomb. Today, it is a beloved symbol of recovery and peace in Nagasaki. We will put our heart and soul in this performance. We hope that our affection for peace will reach to your heart.

(Performance)

MC

Thank you very much. Tachibana Junior High School, Nagasaki City, Hand bell Club COSMOS. Once again, would you please join me in giving the big hands to them? Thank you very much.

Before the opening, I hope you enjoyed the hand bell performed by Hand bell Club COSMOS of Nagasaki City Tachibana Junior High School.

Video Messages:

MC

Here, we would like to show you the video of the mayors who were not able to attend the conference.

(Video)

Opening Video:

MC

Now we would like to show a video film to look at the history of Mayors for Peace activities and achievements.

(Opening Video)

MC

I hope you enjoyed the history and the achievements of Mayors for Peace over the years. Now, President, Vice Presidents and Executive Cities who are present here, would you please come to the stage? Guests who were invited and President, Vice Presidents and Executive Cities of Mayors for Peace, who are present today, would you come to the stage and sit down?

Opening Ceremony

MC

Now we would like to open the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. I will be serving as your MC. My name is Nishi. I would like to ask for your kind support. At the opening of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, on behalf of the organizers, the President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima City, Kazumi Matsui should address you. But because of the typhoon, Mayor Matsui cannot leave Hiroshima City in order to lead countermeasures against disaster so he is not able to attend the opening ceremony. So Mr. Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace is going to read President Matsui's message. Mr. Komizo, please.

Message from Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan (Delivered by the Secretary General of Mayors for Peace)

At the opening of the 9th General Conference, I would like to address you as President of Mayors for Peace. I would like to offer my deepest welcome and appreciation to Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Governor Hodo Nakamura of Nagasaki Prefecture, and so many participants from all over the world. It is a great honor and pleasure for me to open the conference in such a splendid manner.

The key theme of the general conference is “Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons – What We Can Do Toward 2020.” 2020 is a milestone year for our vision to achieve nuclear-weapon-free world, the year when the next NPT Review Conference will be held, and also the 75th anniversary of A-bombings. The theme represents our wish to discuss with you what mayors can and should do together with citizens toward the important year of 2020.

There are two important points we need to consider as we deliberate what we should do. The first is the conclusion of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on July 7. The treaty, long awaited by hibakusha and many advocates of the citizens, was adopted on the final day of negotiations held at UN Headquarters in New York, supported by 122 countries. This represents new progress toward the total elimination of all nuclear weapons. Yet, the nuclear-armed states and their allies under the nuclear umbrella did not participate in the negotiation. So the second point is that we should now focus efforts on persuading nuclear-dependent states to accept the will of civil society, which is our path toward a world free of nuclear weapons. We need to encourage these states to change the directions early so that they are going to join the new treaty. It is very imperative for the civil society to unite voices in order to move out of the status quo of the dependence of nuclear deterrence.

During the conference, we will have in-depth discussions on what we can do to realize early acceptance of the new treaty by all countries including nuclear-weapon states, and to find solution to threats to peace in each region. We will formulate our concrete

actions till 2020 in our Mayors for Peace Action Plan, and we will also adopt the Nagasaki Appeal.

I sincerely hope that we will have fruitful discussions over three days and enjoy our limited time together, for that, with this conference, we can renew our shared pledges. With this I would like to conclude my opening remarks.

Welcome Address:

MC

Now, representing Nagasaki City, which is the host of this 9th General Conference, Mayor of Nagasaki, Tomihisa Taue gives us a welcome address.

Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I am Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki City, currently serving as Vice President of Mayors for Peace. First and foremost, on behalf of 420,000 citizens, I would like to express our heartfelt welcome to all of the participants who have come all the way to this 9th General Conference and I would like to extend my special thanks to Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and Mr. Hodo Nakamura, Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture, for joining us in the midst of their busy schedule. Ms. Nakamitsu, as we all know, is today's keynote speaker.

Every four years, the general conference is held alternately in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. There are two important reasons to this. One of them is to get in touch with the starting point of our earnest desire for realizing a world without nuclear weapons. The very first step for having a firm conviction that we have to make such a world is to learn what really happened on that day in the atomic bombed cities, how it deprived humanity, and to learn that reality. We believe that it is a very good way for us to have such a general conference either in Hiroshima or Nagasaki, and by getting in touch with this origin and starting point of our feeling, we can reconfirm our desire to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

And in this conference, we have an opportunity to listen to one hibakusha, Ms. Sachiko

Matsuo. I'm sure that this is going to be one of the very precious moments that we are able to listen to them directly. Today, the average age of hibakusha is over 81 years old, and we have seen the passing of those precious hibakusha over the years. So I really call upon you to listen to her talk attentively.

The second reason why we are having this general conference alternately in Hiroshima and Nagasaki is that it's the starting point for networking. Many participants from around the world come from cities that suffered from wars and battles and civil conflicts. The Mayors and citizens of those states and cities would like to realize a peaceful world, but their voices are very difficult to be heard when they act individually. However, by having a network of all of those local authorities and citizens, their voices are going to be stronger and they will be heard more in the world, and that will become a powerful force to change the world. That is the spirit of one leader had, and with that conviction, this organization began 35 years ago. Over the years, Mayors for Peace has recruited many new members, and here we are today.

On July 7, at the United Nations, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted and I believe that all the sources and starting point of this Treaty came from the aspiration of hibakusha. Their strong desires were joined in by other like-minded people and together, have grown from a small stream to a big river, and it has reached in the form of a new norm, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. In order for us to really grow this to a big stream, that is to realize a world free of nuclear weapons, there are so many things we still need to do. However, I truly believe that Mayors for Peace has done a tremendous work in helping these achievements of realizing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Mayors for Peace has acted for petition drive and signature collections for realizing such a treaty, and we would like to continue working with you until we achieve a world without nuclear weapons.

Yesterday, with my colleagues sitting on the stage, we met at the Executive Conference for Mayors for Peace. All the attendees in the Executive Conference considered and voiced their opinions what we have to do and what we can do at this moment in time. I felt so proud of being a member of this great organization, Mayors for Peace, consisted of such a great team of representatives of local authorities from around the world. I

hope we will be able to continue to work with them hand in hand towards a world without nuclear weapons.

Mayors for Peace has taken various challenges in the past. In this General Conference, we have a new program called the “Role of Youth”. Young people are going to be divided into six groups, and they are going to discuss with the mayors and representatives of local authorities about what the youth can do for peace. I’m looking forward to this particular session to see what fruit they are going to bring about. Of course we have sessions on the role of cities and the role of NGOs and hibakusha in this year’s general conference.

I hope that this general conference will become a place where we build up our energy that will drive us toward the future through this journey, and, at the same time, I sincerely hope that this will be another occasion where we will strengthen or even expand our network. I once again would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of those like-minded leaders to be here in Nagasaki, and I would like to call upon all my friends and colleagues that we will work together to realize a peaceful world. Thank you very much.

Introduction of Distinguished Guests:

MC

Thank you very much. Now I would like to introduce to you the distinguished guests.

Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations. She is going to deliver a keynote speech.

Mr. Hodo Nakamura, Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture.

Mr. Yoshiaki Takaki, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

Mr. Tsutomu Tomioka, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

Ms. Tomoko Abe, Member of the House of Representatives of Japan.

The Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the members of Nagasaki City Assembly, and also the great leaders of the foreign diplomatic core in Japan are here with us today. Thank you very much for your kind attendance.

Introduction of Executive Cities:

MC

Now, I would like to introduce to you the Vice Presidents and Executives of Mayors for Peace. When your name is called, please stand up, bow and sit down.

Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki.

Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Representing Mayor of Hiroshima, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace.

Ms. Jasminka Bajlo, Counselor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia.

Mr. Nkenfack, Mayor of Fongo-Tongo, Cameroon.

Mr. Josep Mayoral, Mayor of Granollers, Spain.

Mr. Khder Kareem, Mayor of Halabja, Iraq.

Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany.

Mr. Michel Cibot, Honorary City Manager of Malakoff, France.

Mr. Eddy Newman, Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK.

Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, Director of the Institute of Youths, Mexico City, Mexico.

Mr. Jaime Fresnedi, Mayor of Muntinlupa, Philippines.

Mr. Jef Verschoore, Deputy Mayor of Ypres, Belgium.

Mr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to the Governor of Bangkok, Thailand.

Mr. Adrian Glamorgan, Mayors for Peace Working Group, Fremantle, Australia.

Mr. Russell Copeman, Member of Executive Committee of Montreal, Canada.

Congratulatory Address:

MC

Now, may I call upon Mr. Hodo Nakamura, Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture, to say a few words of greetings, please?

Mr. Hodo Nakamura, Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture, Japan

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much for your kind introduction. My name is Hodo Nakamura, Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture. I welcome you all to the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, which starts today for four days with the presence of Ms. Nakamitsu, UN Under-Secretary- General and High Representative

for Disarmament Affairs. I would like to express my appreciation for all of you who are gathered here from home and abroad in distance. Also, I pay the deepest esteem to all the members of Mayors for Peace who dedicate themselves in the path of the nuclear weapon abolition and creating the lasting world peace and solidifying the coalition amongst the cities.

August 9, tomorrow, marks 72 years after the A-bomb was dropped in Nagasaki. A single atomic bomb blasted up in the sky of Nagasaki City, deprived us of 74,000 precious lives of people, destroyed and burned the city into ashes. Once turned into ruins, however, the city resuscitated itself into the green city wishing for peace with the dedication and efforts of the citizens. But, sorrow of the bereaved families will never be consoled even after 72 years. For hibakusha, they are still suffering from indelible scars and aftereffect of radiation. Those living in Nagasaki have the responsibility to pass on these important experiences to the future and disseminate the spirit of peace, wishing Nagasaki to be the last A-bombed site. We hope that we will be able to communicate the horrors of A-bombs and humanitarian consequences of the nuclear weapons to realize the abolition of the nuclear weapons as well as lasting world peace.

Last month, after all the dedication and efforts of hibakusha, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations. However, it was not able to get the concurrence by the nuclear-weapon states. The pace of the international society is not fully consolidated yet. In such circumstances, we are gathered here in Nagasaki in Mayors for Peace meeting to discuss thoroughly for the realization of the nuclear-free world as soon as possible. I believe this is quite significant and opportune for us to do so. In a future, we are determined to put our hands together to send the message of peace, and we would like to invite as many people as possible to Nagasaki so that they will be able to see with their eyes and feel with their skins the reality of A-bombing. Transcending the logics and rhetoric, we hope we will be able to have the participation of as many people as possible in our discussion for the creation of world peace. I would like to ask for your assistance and cooperation to this effect.

Lastly, I would like to wish you many fruitful outcome of this conference, and hoping for your prosperity in the future and good health for all of you. I would like to conclude

my remarks. Thank you very much for your invitation.

Video Message:

MC

Thank you very much, Governor Nakamura. Now, the Chair of the Ban Treaty, Ms. Elayne Whyte of Costa Rica has sent us a message.

Elayne Whyte Gómez, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the UN Office at Geneva (Video Message)

Distinguished Mayor of Nagasaki, Mr. Tomihisa Taue, mayors attending the 9th Conference of Mayors for Peace in Nagasaki, your friends, participants. This year's 9th Conference takes place in a new historic moment. Only four weeks after the United Nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on July 7. It is a great historical milestone that by majority of the members of international community, we were able to move on in a ban on nuclear weapons, seven decades after they were first used in 1945. It is also a great achievement for all individuals, their families and organizations. They have worked so tirelessly to see nuclear weapons prohibited in international law.

We know that the adoption of this treaty is the first step in the right direction toward nuclear disarmament and the world free of nuclear weapons. But we also know that we still have a long road to travel together toward nuclear disarmament and the elimination of nuclear arsenals. We are starting a new phase with the adoption of this treaty. In two actions our strategic, in this moment, is signing and later ratification of this treaty.

I would like to encourage you to engage with national governments to advocate for the signing of the treaty. The signing ceremony is going to take place on September 20 in New York, in the context of the High-Level Segment of the General Assembly. And later on, to concentrate your efforts for a fast ratification process so that we can have as soon as possible the 50 ratifications that are necessary for these norms to enter into force.

As you plan, you work ahead. I want to call to your attention, Article 12 of the treaty,

which contains the provisions of the commitment to undertake actions toward the universalization of the treaty. I would like to encourage you and to invite you to take this commitment as yours.

And to devote your future efforts, to the promotion of the principles, norms, and provisions of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons are the center piece of the work that you undertake toward nuclear disarmament.

We owe to the victims of the use and testing of nuclear weapons, but also to the future generations. To work hard to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, for that, we count on you and your continued efforts toward nuclear disarmament and peace. I thank you very much.

MC

Thank you very much, Ms. Elayne Whyte. In organizing the 9th General Conference, we received many messages, but due to time constraints, we are not able to read them out, so please go to the message board in the foyer of this hall to read those messages.

Now we would like to move on to the keynote speech. Distinguished members on the stage, would you please step down and go back to your seats in the floor? Ladies and gentlemen, you are kindly requested to stay seated till we set the stage for the keynote speech. Thank you.

Keynote Speech: “The Imperatives for Disarmament in 21st Century”

MC

Now we would like to proceed to the keynote lecture. The keynote speaker is Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs. Until May, when she assumed the current position, since 2014, Ms. Nakamitsu served as United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Crisis Response Unit Leader. She has many years of service both inside and outside of the UN system, recently as Special Adviser Ad Interim on Follow up for the Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants between 2016 to 2017, and also as Director in the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Asia

and the Middle East Division between 2012 to 2014, and Director of Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training between 2008 and 2012. She is going to talk about “The Imperatives for Disarmament in the 21st Century.” Now, Ms. Nakamitsu, please.

Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki, Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, ladies and gentlemen, thank you so much for this opportunity to address you during this very important conference, the 9th General Conference of this important organization. Before I start, I want to thank the student performers this morning of the hand bells, the “peace bells,” who gave us the beautiful music to start this important conference. I was really impressed by the combination of very complex and different movements, which really put together to produce such beautiful music in full harmony. I was thinking that probably our movements toward the elimination of nuclear weapons will be something similar. A combination of different methods and different efforts put together will become such an important force of peace. So I wanted to give a special thanks to the student performers.

I also wish to pay tribute to this organization that is making such an important efforts towards realizing a world without nuclear weapons. Civic leaders are, by definition, are core vanguard of civil society. I have witnessed in the places where I worked or visited in the past - Sarajevo, Kabul, Kandahar, Mosul or Juba alike - it is cities and their populations that bear the brunt of the suffering caused by armed conflict. I commend your efforts to elevate the voices of cities and their citizens around the world, who are in fact among the main stakeholders in the cause of disarmament as well.

The elimination of nuclear weapons has been and will continue to be one of the primary objectives of the United Nations in the field of disarmament. However, like the Covenant of the Mayors for Peace, the United Nations places this primary objective within the broader context of the ultimate objective of the disarmament process.

By addressing the issue of nuclear weapons in a broader context, it is not my intention to imply that we must first solve the problem of general disarmament before we can

hope to finally eliminate nuclear weapons. Rather, my objective today is to speak about the current imperatives for disarmament in light of the international situation we face today and also in light of the challenges and threats we expect to face in the future.

This broader perspective is embedded in the Charter of the United Nations and has underpinned the past seventy-plus years of efforts. Article 11 of the Charter explicitly gives the General Assembly the authority to consider the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of arms.

Ever since the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly, these twin objectives—disarmament and the regulation of arms—have respectively represented the goals of eliminating weapons of mass destruction on the one hand, and the regulation of conventional arms on the other hand.

Furthermore, the plan of action adopted at the first special session of the General Assembly in 1978 devoted to disarmament issues recognized the elimination of nuclear weapons as the highest priority for disarmament negotiations.

The track record in implementing this plan of action that was adopted in 1978 was positive for about two decades after 1978. During that time, the United Nations achieved conventions on certain conventional weapons and on the elimination of biological and chemical weapons. It also established mechanisms to increase transparency in arms transfers and in military expenditures. Successive rounds of bilateral and unilateral strategic arms reductions substantially reduced the global stockpiles of nuclear weapons from their Cold War high of about 70,000. Today, they are about 15,000.

Yet, there is a widespread perception that in recent decades, progress toward nuclear disarmament has stalled. The pace of nuclear arms reductions has slowed. Nuclear weapon systems remain on high alert, available for launch within minutes. Nuclear-armed countries are modernizing and upgrading their arsenals. Several of those

states are also continuing to build up the overall size and diversity of their warheads and also delivery systems.

There are many self-described so-called realists in the world today of the annual global military expenditure of about \$1.7 trillion who call disarmament a utopian dream, which can only be realized in ideal circumstances of complete world peace. But this cynical worldview turns our present situation on its head. To paraphrase Dag Hammarskjöld, the goal of disarmament is not to bring us to heaven, but rather it is to spare humanity from ever again suffering from horrors like those experienced by the Hibakushas in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

To overcome these challenges, we need to consider the basic motivations for disarmament and to understand its role and potential in maintenance of international peace and security today.

Let me today focus on three key issues: 1) the imperatives for disarmament, and why we need to make progress in today's international security environment, 2) new challenges we are facing or we expect to face, and 3) possible ways forward.

One of the most important imperatives for disarmament is and has been international security. The United Nations was created, as you know, to maintain international peace and security, and as such, security is central to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. The UN Charter prohibits the use of force against the political independence or territorial integrity of states. The UN Charter also established a framework for collective security, where states would only be allowed to use force in self-defense and in the collective action authorized by the United Nations Security Council.

In this connection, the logic of disarmament is to promote the security for all, individually and collectively. For decades, the security imperative has been the driving force behind measures for nuclear disarmament.

The nuclear-armed states bear the largest responsibility for making progress on nuclear disarmament. This has been politically and legally accepted by the entire international community, both by nuclear-weapon states and others, since the dawn of the nuclear era, and is central to the so-called "grand bargain" reflected in the NPT treaty.

But it is equally important to emphasize that these nuclear-armed states would also be the primary beneficiaries of disarmament. Steps to reduce arsenals, lower alert levels and mitigate risks of incidents can build confidence. Measures to curtail the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons can prevent an expensive new arms race. The elimination of various arms intended for first strikes can promote stability in times of crisis. Disarmament measures can also play a positive role in responding to breaches of the peace and in preventing armed conflict from subsequently re-emerging.

Taken together, these measures can create the conditions for ending regional disputes, for resolving conflicts and also facilitating the elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide.

Due to constant advances in military capabilities and in the nature of armed conflict, inaction on nuclear disarmament cannot be equated with maintaining or maintenance of the status quo that we have today. We believe that inaction on disarmament will lead to a world that is more insecure and less stable. Because we have situations such as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or tensions in the Middle East, we need serious disarmament discussions and serious steps for disarmament. We must make every effort to find political solutions to disputes, to prevent further proliferation of nuclear weapons and to find ways to reduce and eliminate what already exists.

It should also be emphasized that the nuclear-weapon states do not bear the responsibility for achieving disarmament alone. In fact, the preamble of the new Prohibition Treaty rightfully recognizes that the risks posed by nuclear weapons

concern the security of all humanity, and that all states share the responsibility to prevent their use.

The universal acceptance of this goal led the International Court of Justice to determine that the disarmament obligation transcends any treaty and is a requirement under customary international law.

While the objectives of disarmament continue to be most strongly associated with security, the humanitarian imperative is in fact the oldest driver for arms control and disarmament in the modern era.

Since the mid-19th century, the international community has sought to progressively develop the law of armed conflict in parallel with rules to prohibit or restrict specific weapons that cannot be used in conformity with humanitarian principles.

Since the end of the Second World War, the humanitarian imperative has also been linked very strongly to the objective of protecting civilians from the effects of armed conflict. It is also the frame from which civil society has had the greatest and largest leverage and influence in the process of making new laws and establishing such new norms as we just saw last month.

In this connection, more recent humanitarian disarmament initiatives have banned or restricted weapons that produce undetectable fragments, mines, booby-traps, blinding laser weapons, anti-personnel landmines, cluster munitions and so on.

And, of course, the humanitarian movement has been, as I mentioned, the strongest driving force behind the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

I also want to touch on the development and environmental imperatives for disarmament a little bit.

In recent decades, disarmament has largely slipped off the development agenda, unfortunately. This is despite overwhelming evidence that the over-accumulation of

weapons fuels conflict, drives the illicit trade, enables violent extremism and facilitates gross violations of human rights and humanitarian principles. Therefore, the failure to put in place an effective system for the regulation of arms has had a devastating toll on socio-economic development, sustainable growth, gender equality and human well-being in general.

Environmental imperatives for disarmament have been largely dormant in recent years, but may have considerable potential for the future. Environmentalism has proven to be a potent but understated force for arms control. The United Nations recently completed an important study on the environmental impact of armed conflict. But, the problem of addressing concerns resulting from particular types or categories of weapon systems remains very much an open question for disarmament bodies.

Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015, is a universal and integrated framework which brings together development, peace and security and environmental objectives comprehensively. We must redouble our efforts to ensure that disarmament actions, which can make enormous contributions to establishing peaceful societies, are fully anchored within the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ladies and gentlemen, I spoke enough on "why disarmament today," but understanding the various roles for disarmament helps to inform our collective response to the challenges and threats that have emerged since the start of this century. These new challenges and threats, which are of course exacerbated by the existence of terrorist groups with regional and global influence, can be described as falling into one of two categories, probably.

The first challenge relates to the unacceptable harm to civilians resulting from arms-related abuses. This challenge takes many forms, ranging from the indiscriminate use of weapons, to the illicit trade in weapons and even the re-emergence of prohibited weapons whose use has been deemed not to be in line with the conscience of humanity.

We have seen in recent conflicts the devastating effects caused by the use of explosive weapons, for example, in populated areas. Data collected by non-governmental organizations has shown that when such weapons are used in populated areas, civilians account for 90 per cent of casualties. Many governments have recognized this problem. They have pledged to support the collection of data on the harm to civilians caused by such use of explosive weapons and on good practices and lessons learned to minimize the impacts. A group of states also remains committed to developing a political commitment for governments to refrain from such use.

Excessive accumulation and the illicit trade in arms and ammunition, especially small arms and light weapons, continue to pose a significant threat to the maintenance of peaceful and sustainable societies. This illicit trade impedes socio-economic development, facilitates transnational organized crime and exacerbates the lethality and duration of armed conflict. The full implementation of the United Nations program of action remains essential in combatting the illicit trade, including through the adoption of necessary national legislation. There is also a need for more action to facilitate international assistance for capacity-building, including to improve physical security and stockpile management at different countries.

Finally, we have all witnessed with shock and horror the re-emergence of chemical weapons in the context of the armed conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. Despite the extraordinary efforts of the international community leading to the destruction of that country's declared program, we continue to receive allegations of the use of chemical weapons with disturbing regularity. The United Nations remains determined to investigate all credible allegations and to identify the perpetrators of these acts. Those responsible for the use of chemical weapons must be held accountable, and we consider this as critical agenda of preventing further erosion of the existing norms against chemical weapons, which goes much beyond Syria.

The second challenge relates to emerging military capabilities and means of warfare. These also include what the Secretary-General has termed "frontier issues." Given the

rapid pace of technological innovation driving many of these developments, their full implications are not yet known. But it is already clear that many emerging military capabilities pose grave and overlapping risks, including to international stability and to upholding humanitarian and human rights principles. In some cases, they are also straining the ability of our normative and regulatory frameworks to keep peace and to mitigate any harmful impacts.

Examples of problematic emerging capabilities include long-range conventional missiles, anti-missile and anti-satellite systems and also cyber weapons. These capabilities all involve risks to international and regional stability. In some situations, there is also concern over the potential of these new strategic weapons to contribute to new arms races, diminish stability and jeopardize existing arms control frameworks.

There are serious concerns about the ability of lethal autonomous weapon systems to effectively comply with international humanitarian law. This is especially concerning if these systems are developed for use in complex environments or in situations where their use may result in civilian casualties.

Looking farther into the future, advances in artificial intelligence, additive manufacturing and bio-synthetic engineering have also tremendous potential to improve human life, productivity and well-being. However, if poorly managed, their development may have grave consequences for the future of mankind.

Let me try to conclude. Efforts to control arms have been increasingly recognized as intersecting with achieving priorities in the fields of sustainable development, humanitarian principles, human rights, and peace and security. These broader objectives have throughout the last century motivated landmark achievements in the field of disarmament and arms control. We must now have the renewed, redoubled commitment, and also a new vision and concrete actions for disarmament in the 21st century. I believe that our ability to respond effectively to the current and emerging security

challenges of this century will require us to embrace each of these imperatives for disarmament.

As we start our considerations for such a new vision at the United Nations under the new Secretary-General, let me suggest today only three key issues.

First, I believe that we must reposition disarmament as a key and integral part of international peace and security agenda.

I think the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) is a case in point. Ending the DPRK's illicit and destabilizing activities and achieving the peaceful denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula will be inconceivable unless it is pursued within a broader context of regional peace and security. Likewise, no sustainable political solution is possible unless serious disarmament plans in DPRK can be negotiated and agreed upon. The on-going international actions on chemical weapons and other issues related to Syria are a similar example.

My second point relates to the importance of norm development in disarmament. This has been a constant theme dating back to the 19th century.

The prohibition treaty on nuclear weapons will now start to put nuclear weapons on the same level as chemical and biological weapons, which were deemed in 1925 as incompatible with the principles of humanity. The promotion of these norms, or these kinds of norms, was essential in laying the ground work for both preventing the proliferation of these weapons and also for their eventual complete elimination. I think the case of chemical and biological weapons also demonstrates how the pursuit and elaboration of humanitarian norms can bring real security benefits as well.

I would therefore like to emphasize that the effective implementation of various norms and instruments is equally important. We must have a renewed action particularly in the areas where we can make a concrete, visible progress to save lives, such as conventional weapons and use of certain weapons in populated areas.

My third and final point today is about the need to have a new cooperation among states, building new coalitions, as well as new partnerships between states and civil society for disarmament. This is relevant for all diverse disarmament areas. But today, let me refer specifically to nuclear disarmament in the context with the newly adopted Nuclear Weapons Prohibition Treaty.

I appeal to governments to stop looking at the nuclear disarmament agenda in a dichotomy of the NPT versus the ban treaty, but rather from a perspective of the entire framework of treaties, which are all politically and mutually reinforcing of each other. Long before the ban treaty, the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime was already an intricate web of multilateral, plurilateral, regional, bilateral and sometimes even unilateral treaties, agreements, instruments, regimes and commitments and declarations. These are various legally binding, politically binding or purely voluntary instruments.

What's important therefore is not that we agree on the merit of every existing or new possible measure, but rather that they all lead to the same end, namely the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

There are many possible paths leading to nuclear zero. It should not matter which path is taken, as long as it can be demonstrated that concrete progress is being made.

So we cannot rest having completed the first multilateral nuclear disarmament treaty, the ban treaty, in more than 20 years. We must now focus on the hard work ahead of us, of transforming our shared norms and objectives into practical actions for the elimination of nuclear arsenals and of encouraging states to re-engage in the dialogue necessary to bridge the political divide that we see today.

In order to achieve this, we need new cooperation, a new vision and new understanding of what benefits disarmament can bring to us.

As civic-focused advocates, I am sure you will agree on the power of building multi-stakeholder communities. And, as much as the future of humanity resides in cities, your work and your outreach will play a critical role in contributing to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, to the future actions in disarmament in general and to our ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament. Let us work together towards this important and noble objective. Thank you very much.

MC

Thank you very much. Now we would like to receive some questions. Those of you with question, please raise your hand. The representatives from the member cities, if you have any question, please raise your hand. Anybody with question, please raise your hand. Then, we would like to offer a big applause to Ms. Nakamitsu. Thank you very much for the very precious presentation. Thank you very much.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Atomic Bomb Survivor Testimony

August 8 (Tue), 2017 11:00-12:00

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Sachiko Matsuo

Atomic Bomb Survivor Testimony

MC

Now, we are going to start the session. We have invited an A-bomb survivor to share her testimony. She is Sachiko Matsuo, and Ms. Matsuo was 11 years old when she was exposed to the atomic bomb at a location of 1.3 kilometers from the hypocenter. Currently, she serves as a Councilor of Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, and is an active member of the Succession Division of Nagasaki Foundation for the Promotion of Peace. Now, Ms. Matsuo, please.

Ms. Sachiko Matsuo

I would like to extend my warmest welcome to the delegations of Mayors for Peace who have traveled a long distance from abroad. Welcome to Nagasaki, the second A-bombed city. Today, originally, Mr. Sumiteru Taniguchi, the President of Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, was going to address you, but he became ill and is hospitalized, so on his behalf, I would like to share with you my experience. My name is Sachiko Matsuo.

Seventy-two years ago, on August 9, I was 11 years old in the fifth year of elementary school. My house was located 700 meters from the hypocenter. It was in Ohashi-machi of Nagasaki City. In my family, there was my grandmother, my parents, nine sisters and brothers including myself, two of my aunts, and another five relatives. This was a family of 20 people living together. Air raid was becoming intense. I was so scared that I was only able to go to school until June of that year.

My father was offering delivery services using a horse cart. My father saw a flyer which said that on August 8 Nagasaki will be ruined to ashes, so he built a cabin in our field on the hillside of Mt. Iwaya. Two days earlier, we started a new routine, leaving home at 8:00 and coming back at 5:00 in the evening. However, on August 8, there was no air raid. On the morning of August 9, my mother told father “We no longer want to go to the cabin on the hill because it’s already August 9.” Then father said, “There is a time difference of one day, so today, you still need to go to the cabin during the daytime.” So, grandmother, mother, my younger sisters and brothers, and me, a total of 10 of us decided to go to the cabin on the hill. My older sister made lunchboxes for us with rice

balls and cooked potato.

This is what I was wearing when I went to the cabin with my family members. The baggy pants were called *monpe*, and this is the anti-air raid hood, and this is a bag for first aid and the adults used it to keep valuables. I also brought this bag, and I was wearing a long sleeved blouse. So, wearing these and carrying a bag, we went up the hill to go to the cabin.

When we arrived at the cabin, I was so hot that I took off the hood, and all the clothes except for my underwear. Then I looked into the bag I carried to the cabin. I was standing. We were at 1.3 kilometers from the hypocenter. We were taking a rest and relaxing, then there was “*pika*,” a penetrating whitish and yellowish flash, which started fire on the tin-plate roof of the cabin. I was wondering what that light was. We were just astounded. Then “*dooon*,” a shuttering roar came, and I was in a total confusion.

Suddenly, I found myself in blackness, the cabin was gone, I was barefooted, standing on earth. “Where is everybody? Are you hurt? Are you OK?” I could hear my mom shouting, searching for us. When the blackness left, I saw my mom standing right in front of me. She had an injury on her forehead, which started swelling and covered one of her eyes. My second youngest brother had a cut on the back of his neck. The wound was so big and open. The boy and the girl who were with our family, had severe burns.

Our cabin had been blown down to the valley by the blast. The sweet potato fields next to the cabin had no leaves, no stalks, nor green. In a moment, the atomic bomb turned the green field into an earthen ground. US military aircrafts were flying low. I was able to see the cockpit which was very frightening.

After a while, we became worried about our house, so I walked to a place from where I would be able to see the house, but there was something like a big cloud covering the whole city, and the cloud was growing and climbing up toward us. I could see nothing below. My grandmother started to cry, “Everybody is dead. This is the end of the world.” My mother carried the youngest brother on her back, and together with another brother who was injured, the three of them decided to go down the hill, but me and my

immediate younger brother could not go with them because we were too scared. However, soon afterward they came back. Down below, they met a mother and her children who were seriously burned. Because their burns were so serious, my mom could not recognize them until they stated their names. They asked for water, so my mom gave them water. After that, she gave up going down to the city and returned to the cabin.

It was around 3:00 in the afternoon, when I heard footsteps. Someone was walking up the hill. Approaching him, I found it was our father. His head, hands and legs were wrapped in triangular bandages. He was covered with dirt and was injured. He was walking with a cane. I was so glad to see him that I cried with joy. I was really happy then. As a member of a civil defense unit, he was at the unit station in Ohashi when the A-bomb was detonated. He was rescued from under the debris. When he was pulled out of the debris, he found everything burned down. He was really stunned. Everything- houses and factories- were flattened, and they were all burned down.

He was rescued out of debris, but was feeling sick. This is my father. He was stationed in a civil defense unit in front of the arms factory, and was exposed to the atomic bomb at this place. This is the gas tank. In order for the factory to use the gas, there was one single gas tank. When he saw the tank, he thought that he was feeling sick because he inhaled the gas which leaked out from the gas tank. He didn't know that he was exposed to the radiation. But up on the hill, he was very happy to see us all alive.

In the evening, two cousins came to see us. They told us that our sister who made lunchboxes for us that morning was burnt to death in our house. This is my sister-in-law. She went to a relative's house and she died there, burned to death with the member of that relative's family.

That afternoon, the first relief train arrived, and one of our aunts who had serious burns was transferred to a hospital by this train. The cousins also told us that my second-eldest sister who was a student, was injured in Ohashi Factory and fled to an air-raid shelter. This is the aunt who got burned and was transferred to the hospital on the train. The people were in such horrible conditions.

We spent that night on the hill. Aircrafts flew over and dropped flare bombs which lighten up the darkness like daylight. Boom, boom. I was trembling with fear as I saw the city being swallowed in bright fires. It looked like daytime, not night.

On the morning of the following day, August 10, I walked down the hill with my younger brothers. Trees had fallen and blocked our way. We saw corpses here and there. There was no house left standing, and there was a disgusting smell. Fires were still burning in some places, and in those places, there were white ashes with enormous heat. I saw many fragments of bones. It really scared me in the beginning. We walked on the hot ashes and reached to an air-raid shelter. It was full of people who had taken refuge in there. Some had injuries and some had burns. Others looked intact. We heard unbearable groans and cries.

People who had been within the radius of 1 kilometer from ground zero all died in agony. One person had a rotten mouth and a high fever, but he couldn't drink water. He was so hungry, but couldn't eat. Earlier, he was glad to be rescued, but now he was crying, saying why he had to suffer in such an agony. I cannot forget this awful sight. He was weeping and crying.

We brought rice balls as lunch from the cabin on the hill, but they were covered with dirt and we couldn't eat them. We were so hungry that our feet were unstable as we went down the hill. Our house was burned down. There was no food left. Among the white ashes, I found white bones of my elder sister.

We found our neighbor, an elder girl, dead near the place. A pregnant woman was also dead in the nearby ditch. Her body was rotten. A few days later, her body was incinerated, and I found a big skull and a tiny bone at the same place.

My eldest brother was with my father in the civil defense unit. I was told that somebody saw him on the rooftop of Yamazato Elementary School to sound the alarm of the arrival of enemy planes. Somebody went to look for him. He was blown by the blast, and was found dead on the rooftop. But at that time, we were not able to bring his

corpse down to the ground. The next time when we went there, his corpse was gone.

My aunt who was brought to the hospital by a relief train died on August 11, in the City of Isahaya. We received her bones and buried them in the graveyard.

Another elder brother and another aunt never came back. Even today, we still don't know their whereabouts. Their names were inscribed on the grave, which says, "Died on August 9, 1945."

We stayed inside the air-raid shelter. My father said to me, "There are remaining gas inside the gas tank. It's better to leave this place." On August 15, I was told the war has ended, and we went to Togitsu village where our relatives were evacuated.

In Nagasaki, hospitals were also totally destroyed by the A-bomb. There were many people suffering from severe injuries and burns, but they were not able to get treatment. They were lying on the floor, moaning in pain and suffering. Surrounding them were the people waiting only to die. Corpses were cremated near the shelter, and smelled terrible. A week later, my injured father came to Togitsu. In Togitsu, there was a hospital and the doctor gave him a shot every day. However, he lost his hair and suffered from fever and diarrhea. He died on August 28. I was saddened by his death, but thinking about those who died without getting any treatment, my father was fortunate enough because he died after receiving treatment to some extent.

I lost seven of my family members. These are the seven family members that I lost. The whereabouts of these two are unknown. This is my brother who died on the elementary rooftop. When the atomic bomb was dropped, we were around here. This was taken after the A-bombing. It's turned to ashes, but this place used to be surrounded by the greenery. We were around here, 1.3 kilometers away from the hypocenter.

A total number of 1,581 students were in my school, among them 1,300 students died. Almost all of the friends I used to play with died. I don't want other people to go through the same experience. When I was small, I clearly remember the adults were rejoicing to the news from the radio of the outbreak of the Great East Asian War.

Children waved small flags as the soldiers went off to the battlefield. I just wonder how those young soldiers felt at that time. Once a war is started, there is no way you can escape. We should never wage a war.

Nuclear weapons are evil weapons. There are so many people who are still suffering from the aftereffects of radiation. I myself have thyroid disease, and just recently, I received surgical operation of cancer. Seventy-two years have passed, but nuclear weapons still exists. I cannot allow them to exist. With the strong call of hibakusha, we launched the Hibakusha Appeal, and in Nagasaki Prefecture, an association to promote signature collection for the appeal was established. Governor Nakamura and Mayor Taue also came to the street to ask for signatures for the nuclear weapon abolition. Last month, at the United Nations, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted by a majority. I am so happy with this. Let's get rid of the nuclear weapons from the world. Make Nagasaki the last A-bombed site. Thank you very much for your attention.

MC

Thank you very much, Ms. Matsuo. Now we would like to invite comments or questions from the participants. If you have any questions or comments, please raise your hand. Any questions or comments? Now, we would like to express our deep thanks to Ms. Matsuo. Please give her a big applause. Thank you very much. This was the testimony of the atomic bombing given by Ms. Sachiko Matsuo.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session I

August 8 (Tue), 2017 13:30-15:30

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Chairperson:

Kazumi Matsui

President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

Agenda Explanation:

Yasuyoshi Komizo

Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, Japan

Session I

MC

Thank you very much for waiting. We are going to start Session I. According to the Covenant, Mayor of Hiroshima, Kazumi Matsui, is going to serve as Chairperson.

Chairperson: Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

Good afternoon. I would like to ask for your kind support for the smooth conduct of the meeting. Let us start Session I. We have three agenda items, and all of them were approved by the Executive Conference yesterday. Now the three agenda are here for discussion and adoption.

Agenda Item 1 is only for the member cities, but non-members are also invited to be here so that you can understand what we are doing. You are here as observers. Now let me move on to agenda Item 1 “Election of Executive Officials.” There is an explanation form the secretariat.

Secretariat: Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, Japan

Thank you very much. Agenda Item 1 is “Election of Executive Officials.” I think you can find these in your handout. Concerning the election of the Executive Officials, please look at page 1. On page 1, you can see the proposal. This is the list of candidates for the Executive Officials for President, Vice Presidents and Executives. According to the Article 4 of the Covenant, the President and the Vice President shall be elected by mutual vote. According to the long years of practice, concerning incumbent President and Vice Presidents, in principle, are requested to remain in those positions if they agree. So the current President and Vice Presidents were asked if they are going to remain or not, and most of them said that they wish to continue in their positions.

The one with yellow highlight is the mayor of Des Moines, a new candidate for Vice President. To give you the explanation, the Vice President city, mayor of Akron, USA is now succeeded by another mayor, and although the previous mayor and the city served as Vice President for a long time, the newly elected mayor declined reappointment. On the other hand, the mayor of Des Moines has been quite active. Also the mayor of Des

Moines clearly expressed his intension to accept the position. On July 7, a negotiation was held at the UN Headquarters, and in its first meeting in March, there were no representatives from the US government, but representing more than 200 mayors of Mayors for Peace in the US, Mayor Cownie attended the UN negotiation. And you saw his video message this morning. So, the mayor of Des Moines is now recommended as a candidate for Vice President, representing the US. This is the intension of the President, and the Executive Conference already approved this proposal. Now the agenda is here for the general conference to deliberate and decide about the adoption.

Among the existing Vice President cities, concerning Brussels in Belgium, there has been changes in the administration, and the current intention of the city is not clear. So it's not decided whether Brussels is going to continue as Vice President. If Brussels is going to express the intension to accept the reappointment, then Mayors for Peace is going to ask the new mayor to remain as Vice President. If the suggestion is declined, then it will be followed that way.

As for the Executives, you can see the names of the candidates, starting with Governor of Bangkok. According to the Article 4 of the Covenant, the Executive members shall be appointed by the President. So, this item is an item for reporting, not for the resolution. And, we would like to introduce the newly elected Executive City, mayor of Grigny of France. Mayor of Grigny is now serving as the President of French Chapter. Therefore, it's quite natural for us to recommend this city as Executive. Other members of the Executive Conference seconded this proposal, and the President is very happy to invite this city as a new member of Executive. This is an item for reporting. That's all from the Secretariat.

Chairperson

You just heard the explanation from the secretariat. Are there any questions or comments about this agenda item? No questions? Then, we would like to vote. Those who are for adopting the proposal as is presented, please give us your applause. Thank you very much. So, Vice President Cities and Executive Cities, we would like to ask you to offer your efforts until the next general conference to be held in 2020.

Now we are going to invite the mayor of Grigny, Mr. Philippe Rio. We are going to invite him onto the stage as a new member of the Executive Officials. Thank you very much.

Now, we would like to proceed to Agenda Item 2 “Membership Fees: Seeking increase in revenue and utilization to regional activities.” Explanation from the secretariat, please.

Secretariat

Please look at page 3 of the handout. Before talking about the proposal itself, please go to the next page. On page 4, you can find the reference material showing you the current revenues and expenditures of the membership fees. Just one comment about this reference material. We now have more than 7,400 member cities, but as you can see, fees have been provided by 1,116 cities. So, I would like to ask lead cities to make efforts to contact other member cities in your country or region to support the activities of Mayors for Peace by making contribution as membership fees. This is quite important.

Now the Agenda Item 2 itself. In order to make efforts for the abolition of nuclear weapons, we need financial resources. Four years ago at the previous general conference, we decided the annual membership fee should be 2,000 JPY, which is less than 20 EUR, per year. The amount may not be large, so I do hope that many more members would pay the membership fee. So membership fee collection is quite important to support the activities. I would like to ask the lead cities to increase their efforts to contact other member cities for this purpose.

In the next agenda, we are going to discuss the Action Plan. The nuclear prohibition treaty has been adopted. Prohibition is declared in the treaty, but in order to make more countries to join, additional articles will be required. The nuclear-weapon states and those under the nuclear umbrella are required to accept the objectives of the treaty so that the treaty will become effective which can really reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons. So, we need to focus our efforts on those activities. In order to do those activities, in addition to the existing activities, we now propose to have another sets of

activities called “realization of safe and resilient cities,” including environment, poverty and refugees. There are specific issues to each region, so Mayors for Peace, centering on lead cities, is determined to take actions for those issues. This will expand our own activities, and it will also expand those who would like to take proactive actions for our causes. To make it happen, we would like to propose to add a new category of activities, “realization of safe and resilient cities,” but those activities require financial resources. In order to initiate those new types of activities, if lead cities and the cities in the same region agree, then an option will be given to them to increase the membership fee from 2,000 JPY to 6,000 JPY. The difference is 4,000 JPY, and that difference will be utilized for the new sets of activities.

The collection of the membership fee remains voluntary, and those who are not making payments of membership fee does not mean that they will no longer be members of Mayors for Peace, but now we propose a new scheme, in order to strengthen the financial basis.

Of course, we need to seek other ways to bring in financial resources from outside, but at this point, we have the two proposals. The first is to improve the collection rate, mainly through the efforts by lead cities. The second is a membership fee increase to secure budget for activities targeting “realization of safe and resilient cities.” The proposal is to increase the fee from 2,000 JPY to 6,000 JPY. If there is a reason to do so and if it’s accepted by that particular region. This is our proposal.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. Membership fee revenue increase and utilization to regional activities. Are there any questions to this explanation? Any questions from member cities? No questions? If you are for this proposal, please give us your applause. Thank you very much for your support. We have decided on the membership fee revenue increase and utilization to regional activities. We hope that all the member cities will strive toward achieving those financial resource expansions.

We would like to move on to Agenda Item 3 “Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020).” Secretariat, please.

Secretariat

Thank you very much. Regarding this matter, we have revised the draft action plan we've just given to you today. It is from page 5 to page 12. On page 5, you can see a schematic drawing. From page 6 onward, you can read the details of the proposed action plan. Due to the time limitation, I am not able to take you through the whole details of this draft document, so I would like to use this scheme shown on Page 5.

In the previous agenda item I touched upon this draft action plan to some extent. So far our primary activity has been activities related to the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, and that had been laid down in the previous action plans. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, but there is a serious divide between the nuclear-armed states and those who do not have nuclear weapons. So we believe that Mayors for Peace, which goes beyond any ideological differences, needs to work as a good mediator between the two worlds so that we will be able to move fast to a world without nuclear weapons. There are diverse people and diverse organizations, and it's important for Mayors for Peace to mobilize those diverse people and groups and diverse ideas into our drive for a world without nuclear weapons. In order to have more cities involved in the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, we believe that we need to pay attention to other regional issues such as terrorism, refugees, and poverty. These issues should be discussed and lead by lead cities in each region, and that will enhance the level of interest of many cities. And their interest, I hope, will eventually lead to their involvements in our effort to realize a world without nuclear weapons.

Beside this important point, I would like to add one more point why we are adding this new piece of activities "realization of safe and resilient cities." In our past discussion with various member cities, we received many calls to add those issues such as terrorism, refugees and what not in Mayors for Peace Action Plan. By including those pieces of other activities, terrorism and refugees, we will be able to mobilize more member cities toward a world without nuclear weapons. That has been the discussion we have had with many member cities, and actually, in yesterday's Executive Conference. This idea was approved and supported by Executive Cities.

I would like to explain this scheme. Right on top you see our ultimate goal, “realization of lasting world peace.” We are doing this work so that other people, other than hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, would not go through the same suffering. We would like to make a change in the world for the better, and we would like to realize a lasting world peace, a world without nuclear weapons where people of different notions and different ideas are able to live happily with each other. In order to realize this goal, “lasting world peace,” we decided to have two sub-goals. One is “realization of a world without nuclear weapons” which has been our goal so far, and the second is “realization of safe and resilient cities.” Cities need to create peace among their citizens, especially focusing on youth. Specifically, cities need to tackle issues such as terrorism, refugees and what not. By pushing for safe and resilient cities, this will eventually move us toward a world without nuclear weapons.

I would like to explain the sub-goals. Regarding the realization of a world without nuclear weapons, Mayors for Peace will call upon the UN and national governments. The content of the requests are, first, to act with a mindset of understanding hibakusha’s wishes. In order to do so, we would like the leaders of the world to come and visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Secondly, we will promote the early conclusion of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. So far, in the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision, we have been calling it a nuclear weapons convention. We have been calling that way because we were not just considering about the prohibition, but the verification system or how to deal with the weapon’s impact on environment. Of course it takes a long way to achieve such a ban. Many states decided to clearly have a treaty on banning nuclear weapons and in order to allow nuclear-armed states to come and join this treaty, they decided to have a certain flexibility in the treaty. We believe that the civil society and cities need to work upon national governments so that they will join the treaty in the near future. This treaty is not complete, but it has such a very grave significance so we need to support it. We need to call upon national governments to join the treaty as soon as possible.

Thirdly, create a security framework that moves away from nuclear deterrence. Nuclear deterrence is the big reason why nuclear weapons still exists. Nuclear deterrence means mutual distrust, and because of this, with the threat of massacre and mass-killing,

nuclear deterrence has been used as a rationale. For instance, terrorism and refugee crisis we see today are the result of mutual distrust, and exclusiveness. Nuclear deterrence will not be able to solve such issues. Furthermore, nuclear deterrence has negative impact: it is a waste of resource and there is a risk of nuclear proliferation, as we have seen in North Korea. We the cities need to not just criticize national governments, but advise them so that they can work toward a more appropriate road.

The second bullet point is efforts to be made by a wide range of citizens to call on nuclear-armed states and their allies to act. Nuclear-armed states and those under their nuclear umbrella who are not part of the treaty have to move toward a world without nuclear weapons. Of course, they have their own security concerns, but on behalf of our citizens, we, the mayors and cities, need to call upon our national leaders to make a change in the course of their actions.

On the right, creation of peace culture and the specific activities are to be conducted at the same time. In order to move such activities, we need to foster and grow international public opinions. Mayors for Peace and cities are close to citizens, therefore this is a very important role for us to play.

If you look at the left box, we need to create something long lasting, and we can see that big changes have been brought about by the young people. Their passion and their will can make a change in the world. So, young people need to really understand the value of peace and also the earnest wishes of hibakusha. They need to become citizens that will create a better world in the future, and we, Mayors for Peace, need to support them. That is the first point. For peace education, we will use animation films and take inventive approach, and the secretariat will create educational materials with you to raise awareness of young people. We will enhance the scheme to have many more students come to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to study. We will continue with the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in higher education.

The second point is to raise awareness for peace among a wide range of citizens. Point 1 is the petition drive signature campaign that also creates an opportunity to have a dialogue with many people. We can exchange opinions with a diverse range of people,

and that will inspire us toward new ideas, and out of this, we will be able to create further awareness of peace. Through petition drive and signature collection started by mothers stopped the nuclear testing by the US and the USSR in 1950s. So, signature collection or petition drive are indeed important and significant. Another is appointing Campaign Ambassadors. Unfortunately, inhumanity of nuclear weapons is not well understood throughout the world. So, in collaboration with researchers, scholars, citizens and hibakusha, we need to conduct outreach activities on the inhumanity and risks.

The third point is promoting and disseminating Hiroshima and Nagasaki's messages to member cities. For instance, the use of A-bombed trees' seeds, and receive foreign diplomats in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Actually, the US Consul-General listened to the story about the A-bombed trees, and through this, he planted an A-bombed tree's sapling on the ground of his residence. An A-bombed trees' sapling, which is very difficult to grow, was planted together by Mayor Matsui and the Consul-General of the United States, and this is a symbol of creating peace together. Hannover and Manchester, those cities are also joining, and also French cities are joining this.

The fourth point is the collaboration with other organizations of cities and also ICRC. On the right-hand side column, similar activities are shown. The first is the next generation, young people's education, and also various activities to solve region-specific issues. In yesterday's Executive Conference, one thing was considered important. That is SDGs, the UN Sustainable Development Goal, which was also discussed by Ms. Nakamitsu in her keynote speech. On our part, we noticed that there are some SDGs goals which are important for citizens and cities. It was discussed yesterday in the Executive Conference that we are going to also encourage achieving such SDGs.

Regarding the collaboration with other organizations of local authorities, there are two examples. For instance, the mayor of Granollers from Spain mentioned that the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is an organization where he serves as the vice president, and he has been working to link Mayors for Peace and UCLG. So, we would like to join that kind of effort. And the mayor of Des Moines and his predecessor have

been working in the biggest mayors' organization in the United States, which is the US Conference of Mayors, and they have been organizing efforts on the nuclear disarmament resolution for 13 years. Lead cities are expected to make a creative effort so that they will be able to further link Mayors for Peace with other organizations of local authorities.

In order to carry out those activities, we need to have management and financial foundation. What we discussed just a few minutes ago is going to be very important. Membership fee is not a major financial resource, but with funding from foundations from outside, we might be able to collect additional fees and donations. We hope that we will be able to consolidate our activities by making the best use of those funds. So, those are the proposals I want you to ask your understanding.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. Secretary General has given us the ideas and point of view of Mayors for Peace Action Plan. Now that you listened to this overview, what we've been doing in the past: focusing on the nuclear weapon prohibition, thus creating lasting world peace. But with additional suggestions, in order to create lasting world peace, we need to focus on what's happening in the regions; terrorism, refugees, issues embraced by different cities. Those have to be rectified in order to create lasting world peace. So we have increased one pillar and made the two pillars to support the lasting world peace. And, as one of the major points, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Nuclear weapon convention was the word we used to use in English, but we have introduced a new idea, which is to first establish a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons, and change this treaty that will lead up to a total nuclear weapon convention. So this is going to be the basis of our activities. In order to do that, we need to have our sights set on SDGs by the United Nations. In order to do that, we have to have a good organization and strengthen our source of the funds. The new idea and proposal were incorporated in this concept. Now, any questions? There being no questions, if you agree to this idea as is proposed, may I assume that we have the agreement? Please.

Mr. David Lucas Parron, Mayor of Mostoles, Spain

I am from Mostoles City. Allow me to make a comment. For us, attending here at

Mayors for Peace on behalf of Spain for many years, we made a lot of efforts and 30 cities joined in this association last year. The basic theme is collaboration and cooperation among local cities. There is a special committee in order to realize our objective both from inside and outside of the country. It is necessary to have good collaborations between Mayors for Peace and local authorities. And there is the idea of the UN-Habitat and a conference was held in Quito. In that meeting, strategic actions were put on the table. As one of the cities of Spain, not only the Spanish cities, but also the other local authorities, for example, are able to put a lot of efforts in the regional committee. I believe it is necessary to develop our regional initiative in order to establish the lasting world peace. Now those organizational activities would be more effective in order to realize our objectives. In Spain, we have a gathering of mayors, and we demonstrate our ideas and the statement to give the support.

Chairperson

We need to put our hands together with other cities, not just limiting our activities to Mayors for Peace but work on wide range of issues, not just regional urban issues. I believe Spanish cities are quite active in promoting peace activities in order to realize our objective, the lasting world peace. We have to have a good collaboration and communication among different organizations. Thank you very much for your input.

Any other questions or comments? If not, this Mayors for Peace Action Plan, as was put on the table, may I take it that you have the concurrence in agreement? If so, please give a clap of your hands. Thank you very much.

In relation to this, there is one more thing. There is a proposal for a special resolution. Secretary General, would you like to explain?

Secretariat

In order to further promote the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, what we need to do is the early entry into force of this Treaty. Yesterday in the Executive Conference, Mayor Taue of Nagasaki proposed a special resolution to call for the early entry into force of the Treaty, in addition to the Nagasaki Appeal. This was endorsed by 100% of the members of the Executive Conference. As for the actual wording, we will

discuss this at the Nagasaki Appeal Drafting Committee on the evening of August 9. After the discussion, we are going to bring that to the meeting. Therefore, in this meeting today, we would like to ask if you will agree on this idea.

Chairperson

Thank you for your explanation. In this general conference in Nagasaki, we are proposing the special resolution to make this as a basis for furtherance of our activities. As for the actual wording, this will be discussed in the committee meeting, and this will be also sounded out in the coming day. Is this agreeable? If it's agreeable, please show your "yes" with the clapping of hands. Thank you very much. We shall act accordingly based on this Mayors for Peace Action Plan until 2020, and of course, special resolution should be put on the table. We have been discussing our action plan until 2020. Eventually, since we are discussing the lasting world peace, we have to think about it in a longer perspective, what's going to happen beyond 2020. What is going to be the future vision in Mayors for Peace? Is there something we need to dwell upon now? Among the Executive member cities we hope that we will be able to start to have the discussion beyond 2020. And if there is something comes up, we shall report to you.

Now, some reports and housekeeping announcement from the secretariat, please.

Secretariat

Thank you very much. I have one point to report. It is about the timing of the next Mayors for Peace general conference. The target year of Mayors for Peace is 2020 so it is a common sense judgement to hold the conference that year. Therefore, we hope to hold the quadrennial general conference in the year 2020 in the City of Hiroshima, three years from now. We only have three years, and we will be witnessing a lot of challenges and changes.

Usually, regular meetings are held every two years for the Executive members, but in leading up to 2020, we are planning to hold the Executive Conference in 2018 and 2019. In the next year, 2018, NPT preparatory conference is going to be held in Geneva. By using this as a very good opportunity, those who are able to get together, we hope to have the meeting there. If you wish, you will be able to have the communication by a

way of Skype in the meeting in 2018. And in 2019, immediately before the general conference and the target year, we need to have a meeting. As for the venue, while we were discussing, there was an icebreaking proposal. Hannover City is ready to host the meeting. In addition, as the condition in proviso, Halabja, if a certain condition is met, they said they are prepared to host this meeting. So as to the actual venue, in the year 2018 when we have the Executive Conference at that time, probably we will be able to decide the venue for 2019. There will be the general conference in 2020, and Executive Conference will be held twice: in 2018, at the timing of the NPT prep conference, and in 2019 either in Hannover or Halabja, or any other location. This is going to be the flow of our meetings.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. The year 2020 marks exactly 75 years after the A-bombing. It is going to be the last year of 75 years which was said that no grass or tree would grow after the atomic bombing. We will look into the current status on the abolition of nuclear weapons and will be a critical year for us. An Executive Conference is usually held every two years, but we shall have the Executive Conference twice in 2018 and 2019, leading up to 2020. In 2018, we are going to have the Executive Conference in Geneva, and there are two candidates for the meeting in 2019. Either would be decided by way of the decision making process at the Executive Conference.

We hope we will be able to lead the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons up to the nuclear weapon convention so that we will be able to have the recognition of as many nuclear-weapon states as possible to make this treaty into a convention. We hope that we will be able to put our hands together to realize this. With your cooperation, we hope we will be able to realize this. Thank you very much for your cooperation. With your cooperation, I think we were able to have a very smooth progressing of the meeting, and I think we finished the meeting very effectively. I would like to thank you all for your cooperation.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session II

Roles of Local Governments

August 8 (Tue), 2017 16:00-18:00

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Moderator:

Tatsujiro Suzuki

Director, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA),
Nagasaki University, Japan

Introduction of Peace Activities:

Thomas Hermann

Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Jaime Fresnedi

Mayor of Muntinlupa, Philippines

Michel Cibot

Honorary City Manager, Malakoff, France

Mr. Philippe Rio

Mayor of Grigny, France

Zenya Yamazaki

Mayor of Ayabe, Japan

Summary:

Yasuyoshi Komizo

Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, Japan

MC

Ladies and gentlemen, now Session II begins. Director of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Professor Suzuki, please.

Moderator: Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director of the Nagasaki University Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, called RECNA. We are here to begin Session II. The theme of this session is “Roles of Local Governments.” What kind of image do you have when you hear such a phrase like “roles of local governments”? Nuclear issues are one of the policy agenda often discussed on national level, but indeed local governments have a role to play, and we are going to listen to the cities which are actually playing such a role in the field of nuclear issues. I’m looking forward to listening to their presentations.

First, we are going to start with the City of Hannover in Germany, and the City of Muntinlupa of the Philippines, and from France, the City of Malakoff and the City of Grigny, and from Japan, the City of Ayabe. Each of them is going to share with us their initiatives. And then, after that, we are going to open the floor for opinions. Toward the end, Mr. Komizo, Secretary General of Mayor for Peace is going to give us the summary.

Now, representing Vice President City, Hannover, we are going to invite Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover for the presentation. Please welcome him with a big applause.

Introduction of Peace Activities 1:

Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, ladies and gentlemen, I’m attending the General Conference of Mayors for Peace for the very first time, deputizing for Hannover’s Lord Mayor Stefan Schostok. He has asked me to pass on his best wishes to all of you. As you mentioned in Session I, Mr. Secretary General, it would be a great honor for us to be the host city for the Executive Conference in 2019. I welcome the opportunity we

have during today's session to share our experience of working for Mayors for Peace, to listen to each other and to exchange new ideas. Hannover has been the Lead City for Germany within our movements since 2015. Being invited to perform this role is a great honor for us. We want to deliver on this responsibility. And I would like to briefly outline what this means for us in practice.

Since 1983, during a time in which the Iron Curtain divided Europe into a western and an eastern sphere of influence, Hannover has been a member of Mayors for Peace, and both a Vice President City and an Executive City. And we also have ties of deep friendship with Hiroshima, with which we are twinned since 1983. Right from the start, the unit that coordinates the cooperative work with the Mayors for Peace Secretariat in Hiroshima was assigned to the Lord Mayor's Office. Currently, it has a staff of two, who carry out the wide range of functions involved. These include modernizing the internet presence. We use this website to report on our activities, and those of various NGOs, to make background materials available, and to provide information on current developments such as the recent treaty banning nuclear weapons, and also, of course, this general conference. Public relations activities are extremely important aspect of our work as we seek to recruit new members.

Our commitment to Mayors for Peace is based on the appreciation that working for peace is an integral part of our local politics. Social justice, peaceful coexistence between people and democratic participation are foundational principles that create a harmonious environment for the people of our city. Maintaining and preserving this is one of our prime concerns. This includes raising awareness of the importance of safeguarding these values. Peace is something that must be secured afresh, time and again. It cannot be taken for granted. And that's why it's right to talk about the threat posed by nuclear weapons, to invite people to actively support the abolition of these terrible weapons, and to help pave the way toward a peaceful world without them. This also characterizes the motivation of many new members we have succeeded in enlisting for the work of Mayors for Peace. There are now more than 500 towns and cities throughout Germany that belong to our alliance.

Some words about how we collect the membership fees. In early January, member

towns and cities are requested to make a contribution by bank transfer. Alternatively for 100 EUR, they can purchase a flag for Flag Day. Hannover then forwards the fees collected to the secretariat in Hiroshima in the form of a collective bank transfer. This means international bank transfer charges are not incurred—charges that all the member towns and cities, even the smallest ones, would otherwise have to pay. This is a service we are very happy to provide and one that goes down well with our members.

As I have already mentioned, members can buy a flag for the Mayors for Peace Flag Day that we hold every year on June 8 with various NGOs. These flags are a highly visible way to draw attention to our cause. Some 240 towns and cities now take part in this campaign, and as before, still others have already expressed their interest in participating from next year. This special day raises the profile of our work, and by press releases we communicate to the public our conception of a peaceful world and encourage others to follow suit.

Another cornerstone of our member support activities is the German Mayors for Peace Conference which takes place every two years. Here we discuss topical issues with the representatives of Germany's Federal Foreign Office and various NGOs. This enables us to adopt multiple-perspective approach and to give our members the opportunity to form their own opinions on the matters addressed. The present event, too, is a lively platform for sharing ideas on projects. Also, however, and above all, it is one that allows us to experience our movement as a community—a very large community—committed to the goal of a world without nuclear weapons.

One of these ventures is our ginkgo tree project. In cooperation with a Germany city of Erfurt, school pupils are nurturing ginkgo plants with a view to planting them at Germany's National Garden Show in 2021. These plants are grown from seeds derived from blast-damaged trees regarded as living monuments to peace. They are a starting point for the pupils to explore the issue of the nuclear threat. We very much hope that these seeds of peace which have been sown will grow, and that in this way many young ambassadors of peace will join our cause.

Activities with young people are a very high priority for us. For example, we help

youngsters from Hannover take part in the Peace Programs offered by the Hiroshima Secretariat, and we always have more applicants than places. One reason this exchange scheme is so important is that the participants still have chances to meet survivors. The eyewitness accounts of the hibakusha have a profound impact on those who hear them. One participant was moved to get involved in a school project with contemporary witnesses. It is good that the young people tell their peers about their impressions here in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They can often achieve far more within their peer group than we adults can, which is why we also continue to support the participation of youngsters from our city to the international Youth Conference. After the event, they will share their experiences on our website.

There are two other aspects of our work I would like to introduce. We have, since 2015, hosted discussion events on current political issues under the broader heading of “war and peace.” Our topics have been “flirting with the bomb,” or “focus on the Middle East—the legacy of Sykes-Picots Agreement.” And this coming September, on the International Day of Peace, an event whose focal point will be survivor testimony in the form of Skype interview. These events will generate public interest in our work, enabling us to add information disseminators and supporters to our number.

However, one of our main priorities in the years to come will be an art exhibition called “50 Cities – 50 Traces.” It will open in the next year 2018, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and we intend it to close in 2020, the year of the next Review Conference in New York. We want this artistic take on the issue to encourage debate on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. All of us want to make our mark and leave behind something, a part of ourselves that endures. This is the philosophy behind this project. These works of art featuring traces from 50 international Mayors for Peace cities show how even tire marks on asphalt can have an aesthetic appeal that reflects the world’s beauty. What, however, if the deployment of atomic weapons were to destroy this beauty, leaving traceless oblivion?

To accompany this exhibition, which will travel to some 20 towns and cities in Germany and Europe, we have put together an educational worksheet. This will enable school children to explore the exhibits for themselves. In this way, we will raise

awareness among the coming generations about the vital issue. And we believe we will succeed in this because we have recently seen a surge of interest in what we do, partly prompted by the latest missile tests and the modernization of nuclear weapons. This gives me confidence, despite our awareness that there is still a long road ahead of us. Germany's former Chancellor and Nobel Prize Winner Willy Brandt elegantly put into words just how worthwhile these efforts are. He said, "Peace isn't everything, but without peace everything comes to nothing." Thank you very much for your attention.

Moderator

Thank you very much Mr. Hermann. Thank you very much for a very rich presentation and also finishing in time. I should have mentioned earlier, each person is going to have 10 minutes for the presentation.

Let's move on. One of the Vice President cities, Muntinlupa of the Philippines. We have here with us Mayor Jaime R. Fresnedi, please.

Introduction of Peace Activities 2:

Mr. Jaime Fresnedi, Mayor of Muntinlupa, Philippines

(Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= EZjLyqljps](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EZjLyqljps))

Mayor Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mr. Secretary General, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

The use of youth by ISIS to become extremists in the Philippines has been going on for years. From poverty, this young people are being lured to join the terrorists with pay, sometimes even under the guise of the Philippine army. The youngest recruit in Marawi, based on the documentary, is just 7 years old. These people, at their young age, are being radicalized with twisted ideologies.

Recent US intelligence reports say that ISIS has attempts to acquire nuclear arms in Pakistan. Furthermore, experts say that Islamic terrorists from Iraq and Syria are now migrating to Southeast Asia, especially in the Philippines. With this starting in Mindanao, one can just wonder how peace will be more elusive in the future.

Intelligence reports and experts say that the cities in the Philippines are now being targeted as caliphates by ISIS. The turnover in terrorism is high and that's the reason why the recruitment of the youth is massive. The video that was just shown is just a testimony that the reports are true.

This, all the more, give us the reason to strengthen our social fabric in Muntinlupa, as the saying goes, "think globally, act locally." Other than establishing the first Muslim Affairs Office in Metro Manila that addresses the particular needs of the Muslim community in the city, we had the initiative to partner with the Department of Education to integrate Peace Education Program in the social studies subjects of the junior and senior high school students in the city and organize events that complement the program.

The Philippines is a pioneering signatory of the Treaty of Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons since July 1968. As a ratifier to the Biological Weapons Convention, the state bans all production and import of biological weapons in the country. It also signed the Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty, thus promoting a nuclear-weapons-free Southeast Asia. Our present Constitution, also known as the "Freedom Constitution," is a pacifist constitution. The Article 2 of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines in its State Policies under Section 8 states that, "The Philippines, consistent with the national interest, adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory."

The role of the local government, as an enabler, is to help mold the people and shape a peace-loving society. The city government of Muntinlupa initiated the partnership between the city and the Department of Education to integrate Peace Education Program in the social studies subject of the present 29,354 junior and senior high school students of the city and organize events that complement the program. This will be overseen by the following offices; 1) International Relations Office of the city government of Muntinlupa, and 2) the Social Studies Division, Department of Education. The partnership will have the following objectives; 1) to integrate the Peace Education Program in the social studies subject of the junior and senior high school students, 2) to foster the stake in the students to become promoters of peace and justice,

and 3) to organize peace advocates among the junior and high school students that would organize events on promoting peace.

The initial programs and activities of the partnership, the Social Study Division designed a module for the program that will be integrated in the social studies subject of the senior high school students. Muntinlupa Student Peace Advocates, overseen by the Social Studies Division, it is an organization of all the students of Peace Education Program that plan and manage activities of the program. The organization will be connected with the Student Peace Advocates of Hiroshima for discussions and organization of international events.

The initial activities are following; 1) forums and round table discussions on peace, organized by the Araling Panlipunan Division, the Student Peace Advocates with other youths will participate in periodic forums and round table discussions with invited panel of experts, 2) exhibits, overseen by the division, the schools that offer the program will periodically host exhibits on the atomic bombing aftermath in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and art exhibits on the possible nuclear holocaust, and 3) film showing, organized by the Student Peace Advocates, documentaries on the weapons of mass destruction and its repercussions, including the documentaries of the atomic bombing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be shown periodically.

To determine the interest of the students and the viability of the peace education in Muntinlupa, a survey was recently randomly administered to 500 student-respondents from the five major schools that offer senior high school in Muntinlupa on the following items; 1) on the awareness of the importance of promoting peace, 2) on the belief in the importance of peace education as a medium to promote peace, 3) on the necessity of the peace education to be integrated in the social studies subject in school, and 4) on the interest of the students to engage in the extracurricular activities of the Peace Education Program.

And the results; 1) 9 out of 10 students are either highly or somewhat agreeable with the importance of promoting peace, 2) the same ratio of students believe that peace education is an effective means to promote peace, 3) an overwhelming 100% of the

students are either highly or somewhat agreeable to integrate peace education in their social studies subject, and 4) all the students will engage in the extracurricular activities of the program.

Analysis. The result on the items 1 and 2 indicate that the students are basically believers of peace and that peace education is an effective means to promote this. And, 100% students would actively participate in the class discussions in the Peace Education Program and get engaged in the activities of the program. The results show that all students want the idea of integrating peace education in their subjects. And what is remarkable is that all these students would actively participate in the class discussions and engage themselves in the extracurricular activities and organize events of the Peace Education Program.

Conclusion. The Peace Education Program will be pioneered to the current 29,354 junior and senior high school students of the city. These students will be equipped with knowledge about the value of peace. Under the program, they will also plan and organize events—play a leadership role to include the rest of the youth of the city—to raise the stake on promoting peace. With the current junior and senior high school students of the city and an expected 3% increase in student population every year, we expect to propagate the advocacy of peace in the city starting with our youth.

With the current advancement of technology and globalization, peace seems to be more elusive to many. But if we can start to act locally, we can see the ripples of our impact eventually. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Mayor Fresnedi. The first part was the serious issue of protecting young people from terrorists, and the last half was about the important of peace education. Thank you very much for giving us your presentation.

Now, from Malakoff, and also from Grigny, President City of the French Chapter of Mayors for Peace. Mr. Michel Cibot, Honorary City Manager from Malakoff, and Mr. Philippe Rio, Mayor of Grigny. Please welcome them.

Introduction of Peace Activities 3:

Mr. Michel Cibot, Honorary City Manager, Malakoff, France

Chairman, mayor of Hiroshima City, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for giving me this precious opportunity. Under the name of the City of Malakoff, and as the Vice President City of Mayors for Peace, and a pilot city, allow me to make a comment. For the newcomers, Malakoff is located nearby Paris, a small town. Mayor Jacqueline Belhomme sent best regards to all of you. I have been leading the administration department for 30 years. I attended the general conference in the past eight times, so it is rather legitimate for me to make comments. But it also means that time has passed. Therefore, with the help of my young friend, Philippe Rio, Mayor of Grigny and the head of AFCDRP (Association Française des Communes, Département et Régions pour la Paix), Mayors for Peace French Chapter, I would like to make the presentation.

Before we start our presentation about the activities for culture of peace and nuclear abolition in France, I would like to say one thing. There were many debates about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which was adopted on July 7. France does not have any intention to proceed with the negotiation. In such circumstance, it is not an easy job to promote disarmament in France. They are tenacious when it comes to the deterrence, but they don't even know the difference between the nature of the A-bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Another reason is, in France, they think it is not very much relevant to their day-to-day life because nuclear weapons are not located in front of your eyes. Radiation does not have a smell, nor color, and are not visible as you know, but there is a high level of the risk of radiation. There is a deep concern especially after the Fukushima accident. In France, social psychiatry has been utilized to seek peace so that the citizens can live happily.

In order to reinforce the measures for peace, we need to raise awareness that the nuclear weapons is a threat to all the human beings, and their well-being. In this very limited time, I would like to touch upon some of the measures we are taking, and I would like to give you three appeals for the future. We hope that we will be able to have participation of more citizens then build up the pace and collaborate towards nuclear

disarmament.

First, I would like to talk about the nuclear disarmament activities and measures for culture for peace taken in cities and local authorities. AFCD RP was created in 1997 to enhance our efforts. It's been 20 years since we created this French Chapter. We are participating in various activities. For example, we are participating in the activity of an organization called ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons), that is working for the ban treaty. However, our main activity is drawing up an action plan called the LPACP program, which the local governments in this network collaborate with other groups, schools, and companies to build up a culture of peace. Through our international network, we hold many exhibitions and also movies such as *In This Corner of the World*, which was mentioned earlier today. Those are utilized as teaching materials for peace for the young people.

Secondly, to give you a specific example, in Malakoff where I live, we have an action plan. For many years, there are various cultural events, and the Artists for Peace Exhibition is initiated by a local group. This is a gathering of artists. We only have a population of 30,000, but out of them there are 70 artists. Representatives from media, film, theater groups, unions, schools, music schools and the city hall are contributing to this event every year.

Together with other cities, we welcomed Hiroshima Junior Marimba Ensemble. Thank you very much, Ms. Mieko Asada, for your cooperation. Together with the artists in France and Hiroshima, we are collaborating on an event. In the town of Grigny, unprecedented sports event is going to be experimented this year. A race for peace and three month of educational cultural program for peace will be carried out.

Now, I would like to ask Mayor Philippe Rio of Grigny to present what they are doing in Grigny.

Introduction of Peace Activities 4:

Mr. Philippe Rio, Mayor of Grigny, France

President, Vice Presidents, mayor of Hiroshima and delegates. Grigny is one of the

youngest cities in France. Many of the inhabitants are from different regions and countries. The budget of the city is limited. Exclusion and social urban violence are rather prevalent in our city. However, our common humanity is shown in our creative intelligence and sociality that creates the spirit of collaboration and solidarity which is essential for harmonious coexistence. Immigrants escaped the misery, poverty, wars, and climate changes. In the developed cities, there are so many people who are excluded from the unfair global economy. We are receiving those people. The world is not able to accomplish MDGs and SDGs targets because of poverty, exclusion of others, wars, violence, and nowadays, terrorism. But we do have the obligation. We need to create inclusive cities which are safe and resilient. In order to do that, culture of peace is going to be our means to once again regain our humanity. Ecology and good environment is another means.

A US Film director, Oliver Stone, knows Hiroshima and Nagasaki very well. He said, “Nuclear weapons and climate change are the twin scars of the world we live in.” With this in our mind, we have to think about the local action plan for the culture of peace. Memories, education, sports and culture have to be connected. Concerts, Grigny songs, exhibitions, symbolic tree planting, debates and discussions are held with the participation of the local inhabitants. Retail shop owners, retirees and corporations are participating in those events to create a positive atmosphere. By sharing such precious time, we try to question ourselves about our actions, our relationships with others, and with the world.

Dunkirk experienced two world wars. They are trying to make recollection of the memories, and last year, there was a symposium of the memory cities. And the second meeting was held in Volgograd, sister city of Hiroshima. I’m sure that the representative from Dunkirk will talk about this later.

La Rochelle has also been hosting a peace event every year. Exchanges between the high school students in La Rochelle and Hiroshima has deepened relationship between the high school students and host families. Such exchanges and trainings, artistic encounters are important factors of our peace activities.

Vitry-sur-Seine has been participating in this general conference since 1989. Especially in African countries, they are promoting a distributive collaboration policy, and this year, five young people are visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki. La Courneuve, located in the suburb of Paris, introduced culture of peace in their administration. I believe it is a good method to infiltrate culture of peace. Thank you very much. Mr. Cibot, I would like to give the microphone back to you. I'm sure Mr. Cibot is going to raise some issues before wrapping up our presentation.

Mr. Michel Cibot

I have already given you some of the examples of actions in France. From now, let's talk about the future. I have three questions to ask you, just simple questions: We need to consider issues from a new perspective. First is about the nuclear weapons, which have destructive power. How are they affecting our lives and global violence such as terrorism?

My second question is, in regards to the violence with a global impact, especially terrorism, what kind of impact does nuclear weapons have on these violence?

My third question is about the culture of peace. Will it become the driving force for the collaborative, participatory and inclusive city development?

Sometimes, we are very much threatened by nuclear weapons because nuclear weapons are casting shadows over our lives. But not much studies or researches are done on the relative connection. If we are able to elucidate the cause and effect, I am pretty sure there would be more people participating in the action of the elimination of nuclear weapons. I would like universities, NGOs and organizations to start studies and researches to get the full understanding of the threats by nuclear weapons. And resistance against nuclear war needs to be the base for prevention. That needs to be fully understood. This new prospective can be possible on education. Geopolitically, economically, and environmentally, the world is changing so rapidly. Culture of peace is the only means by which we will be able to respond to the new challenges and save our humanity and our earth. Please cooperate with us in the search and the studies of culture of peace, and please join us in asking further questions. Please start your regional action plan. This is going to be my last words. Let's build peace together. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much for sharing with us the three important questions. I know that these are very challenging questions.

Next speaker is from Japan, representing the City of Ayabe, Mayor Zenya Yamazaki is going to address you.

Introduction of Peace Activities 5:

Mr. Zenya Yamazaki, Mayor of Ayabe, Japan

Thank you for the kind introduction. I am Mayor of Ayabe, a city in Kyoto Prefecture. I am Yamazaki. It's a great honor to be given this opportunity. I'm from Kyoto. I wanted to come here yesterday but because of the typhoon, I had to wait and now I'm finally here in Nagasaki. As you can see here, the City of Ayabe is the first city in Japan which made the World Federation Declaration, and also a member city of Mayors for Peace. Hiroshima also made a World Federation Declaration.

I would like to talk about the activities of the City of Ayabe. The World Federation aims to realize objectives which are common to the objectives for Mayors for Peace. Ayabe is a small city and what we are doing for the world peace may be small, but I hope you will enjoy my presentation.

The City of Ayabe is located in the center of Japan, and also in the center of Kyoto Prefecture. We are right now here in Nagasaki City on Kyushu Island, the western part of Kyushu. The population is about 35,000. This is the view from a hill in Ayabe City. The city is located on a basin surrounded by mountains and this is Yura River running through the city. From the hill, you can see a white tower, which is named the "Peace Tower." Next to the tower, we have trees that were planted by the children from Israel and Palestine. You may wonder why Ayabe has trees planted by children from Palestine and Israel. This is because we are conducting a Middle East Peace Project in Ayabe. On the left you can see the fireworks in summer festival, and youngsters from Israel and Palestine enjoyed the summer festival with their Japanese peers in *yukata*. They also enjoyed the performance of Japanese drums. On the right, a youth who participated 10 years ago came back as an instructor and I enjoyed seeing him again. These young

students are not ordinary children, they are the children who were orphaned because of the war. They are victims of war, and since they are from Israel and Palestine, they have hatred toward each other because that was how they were educated. But they were invited to Ayabe, Japan, and two groups of children stayed together for a week. I knew this was a challenging project. At the beginning, the Foreign Ministry of Japan opposed to the program, but the Foreign Ministry supports us now. In 2003, the project started in Ayabe, and the project has been held 10 times in the past 15 years. Not only Ayabe, but Tokushima City, Shizuoka City, Kanazawa City, and last year, Koya Town in Wakayama Prefecture hosted this event. So the project has been held 10 times. Ayabe City serves as the secretariat. The children from Israel and Palestine stayed in Japan for one week, enjoying their homestay.

Why was it started in Ayabe City? This is because Ayabe is the first city in Japan to make the World Federation Declaration. We believe that this can be one of the small steps toward a World Federation. Our declaration was made in 1950. This kind of project requires funding because we invite 12 children, and we need to cover their accommodation and travel expenses. So the issue is the funding. One dollar donation by local public servants who belong to World Federation Declaration Council is the source. One dollar or 100 yen donation collected from local public servants sum up to 6 to 7 million yen. This becomes the fund to cover their travel fee. After the project is over, we donate any residual amount money to UNHCR or UNICEF each year.

So, this project has been held 10 times, and there are some unforgettable words from the children who participated in this project. After a week in Japan, one boy said, "I thought that he was from a totally different world, but I realized that we are the same generation and share the same sense of value." This kind of concept may be something taken for granted by Japanese children, but these are children who have hatred against each other and received such education.

Japanese host families are not good at using English, so the children need to find a way to communicate themselves. This is their first visit to Japan and first visit to Asia. On holidays, families often go to a rotating sushi shop, and the host family took them there. They really enjoyed and were surprised to see that you can take their favorite dishes by

themselves. There is a special type of noodle called *somen*, and there is a special device to flow the noodle down in bamboo pipes, and you pick up the noodle while it's flowing down, but the children couldn't understand what they were told to eat. So the children of Israel and Palestine started to cooperate together because otherwise, they did not understand what was being fed to them.

A boy said, "Before coming to Japan, I thought that realization of peace was impossible, but even though it may be difficult in my parent's generation, I thought it may be possible in my generation." These words made me grateful for continuing this project.

There is another incident I would like to share. They were on the same airplane when they went back. At Tel Aviv, children from Israel went through the custom smoothly, and their parents were waiting for their children's return. Children from Palestine needed more time, sometimes they had to wait three hours for the custom, but children from Israel were waiting for their peers from Palestine. When they cleared the custom, they were hugging among themselves. This was communicated to us after they went home.

You may be wondering what the World Federation is. This is an international organization dealing with issues that cannot be solved in one country such as conflicts between nations and environmental problems. This is the World Federation. Conflicts can take place in any regions or in any cities. If there is a conflict between Ayabe City and a neighboring city, it will be mediated by the Governor of Kyoto. If there is a conflict between Kyoto Prefecture and other prefecture, the national government will mediate, but what about conflicts between nations? You may think about the United Nations, but there are some countries with vetoes. In that sense, there are limits to what United Nations can do in terms of finding solutions to the conflicts between nations. So the World Federation wishes to develop a mechanism that can govern all states. The World Federation believes that there should be only one mechanism, and the military should be controlled by only one person, although each state can maintain its sovereignty. As for the management of nuclear weapons, the World Federation advocates believe that the states cannot effectively manage them. Therefore, a supranational organization is needed in order to have effective management of nuclear

weapons.

Physicists who developed nuclear weapons understood the necessity most deeply, and the World Federation Movement has been promoted by physicists who developed nuclear weapons. Einstein said that “preventing ruin on mankind must be given priority over anything. That is why I insist on the construction of the World Federation.” In tears, Einstein said, “because of my theory, the atomic bomb was dropped onto your country. I feel quite sorry for that,” and after that, Einstein started to work hard for the World Federation. Dr. Yukawa, the first Nobel laureate in Japan said that “the World Federation is dreaming of yesterday and it is the reality of tomorrow. Today is the first step to tomorrow.”

Japanese government made a commitment to World Federation in 2005. The two chambers of the Diet in Japan adopted a resolution to make a contribution to the World Federation. Former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu led this initiative. Ayabe is the first city which made the declaration. From above you can see that the park represents the symbol of World Federation. There are city-wide efforts for the World Federation.

Why is it that Ayabe took the initiative of starting the Middle East Peace Project? It is because Jerusalem is our sister city. This is Ambassador Kahanoff of Israel, and she often visits Ayabe. Representatives of Palestine also visits Ayabe.

There are municipalities promoting peace activities. For example, Mayors for Peace with Mayor Matsui as President, and National Council of Japan Nuclear Free Local Authorities, whose President is Mayor Taue of Nagasaki. I am the President of Japanese Council of Local Authorities for World Federation. All of these organizations are aiming to achieve the lasting world peace and elimination of nuclear weapons. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which was adopted on July 7, needs to be accepted by the Japanese government, and this is what these organizations are trying to achieve.

We have the statue of Anne Frank and roses of Anne. There are many monuments in the city. GUNZE, a famous textile company, manufacturing quality underwear, originally started in Ayabe. They use silk from cocoon and cocoon is a symbol for Ayabe. This is

the character representing Ayabe City named Mayu-Pea. “Mayu” means cocoon and “Pea” here means peace. You can find the character on the slide.

There are things that are quite difficult for a national government, but may be easier for local authorities. Raising voices by local governments, for example, for the participation to the nuclear weapon prohibition treaty is one of them. Ayabe is now happy that both chambers of the Diet of Japan made a resolution to support the World Federation Movement. Diet members are elected from their electoral district and resolution taken by their electoral district would have a big impact on the elected officials and they will raise this at the Diet. Each politician has his/her personal views but they need to represent the voices of their local voters. I believe, through the activities of World Federation, the voices of local citizens can move the direction of the national government. The participation, or at least, the direction toward the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons should be promoted. Each individual city may be a small one, but if we get together, we can form a big river. We may be small, but we are not powerless. A big river starts with one drop of water. With this in mind, let us work together. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Moderator

Mayor Yamazaki, thank you very much for your presentation. He has given us a very impressive presentation on the Middle East Peace Project and the World Federation and “Mayu-Pea.” Did you mention “Funassyi”? I would like to see a nice and fairy battle between Funassyi and Mayu-Pea, two interesting characters.

Now I’d like to open the floor for questions or comments to those four presentations. We can accept one or two questions or comments. Please state the name of your city, your name and title.

Question/Comment from the Floor 1:

Ms. Keiko Kiyohara, Mayor of Mitaka, Japan

Thank you very much. My name is Kiyohara, Mayor of Mitaka City of Tokyo. I would like to thank Mr. President, Mr. Vice President and Mr. Chairman. Today, I was able to listen to the efforts by local authorities, and I see some commonalities among them.

That is the memory of peace, memory of atomic bombing, that are conveyed to the young generation and through peace education, they are trying to develop role of cities for the future. It's been 72 years since A-bombing in Japan and its memories are gradually fading away, and that's our concern. But it seems that there were many examples from the four cities and how young people are trying to receive those important lessons. Especially the mayor of Ayabe mentioned that they are doing a very important program to link the children of Israel and Palestine. Now I have a question to the mayor of Hannover. Earlier, at the NGO booth, I saw the "50 Cities – 50 Traces" exhibition. For peace education, young people from Hannover and Hiroshima are interacting, and based upon these examples, "50 Cities – 50 Traces" was organized. You are trying to use art as a way to convey the lessons for the future. So, could you tell us more about this art exhibition, the purpose of this? I think we will be able to also use art to transmit our message for peace to young generation.

Moderator

I saw one more hand in the audience. This is the last one. Please.

Question/Comment from the Floor 2:

Mr. Laurent Wehrli, Mayor of Montreux, Switzerland

Thank you very much. My name is Laurent Wehrli, Mayor of Montreux in Switzerland. I'm also a member of the City Assembly. First, I would like to thank all the mayors and representatives of the local authorities for their wonderful presentations. Through this conference, we have been engaged in the work of memories, but also prevention. There was an interesting talk from the Philippines, children being recruited into terrorist groups. Terrible incident. That was an experience in the Philippines. There were so many things we have yet to do. Our work is not complete. I have a question not only to those mayors but also a question to the whole conference. This is also a political question. Not just memories but prevention. We are members of the assembly and we are politicians, and a mayor talked about the World Federation. Switzerland and Germany are federated states so we have some experience, but as Mayors for Peace organization, what can we do through our national governments? Cities need to work upon their national governments so that they can do the right job in international negotiations, for instance, adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

But how can we approach and influence the foreign ministers or national governments in the process of international negotiations? How can we really approach and pressure national governments or diplomats?

One more question is about Mayors for Peace. We are here as leaders of local governments. This morning, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Nakamitsu gave a speech. I should have asked this question earlier, but what I want to ask is, why don't we, Mayors for Peace, propose to the United Nations to work together with the United Nations for a city project? More horizontal urban project, I hope, will be launched for disarmament and for involvement of cities. This is something I would like to propose; inter-city solidarity project, for instance, urban projects. I hope that Mayors for Peace is able to propose such a project to the United Nations, and possibly some funding sources.

Comment from Local Authorities 1:

Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, Director of the Institute of Youths, Mexico City, Mexico

Good afternoon. Thank you for this opportunity. I would like to thank all the presenters for their wonderful presentations. I am from Mexico City. For a local government, what can we do? I believe local governments can make an important contribution. I have two points to make. First important thing for all the projects is that the projects are directed for young people and young generation. In order to promote the culture of peace, we need to understand the importance of peace education. And we are focusing on not only the current situation but also on the future. We are responsible for the future, so we have to make decision right now to fulfill our responsibility toward the future. Nurturing of the peace culture for the world can be done not only at local level but also at national level and global level.

In Mexico City, we have a big issue. Nuclear weapon issue is not so well understood because Mexico is not a nuclear-weapon state. On the other hand, conventional weapons are posing serious issues because people have conventional weapons at home and are handed over from parents to the next generation in an illegal manner. This is a big issue for Mexico. Conventional weapons and illegal possession of conventional

weapons must be criticized because conventional weapons can kill people. Accidental use of conventional weapons in your house can kill a person. We have to change this situation. There are 26,000 guns in families in Mexico, so we are trying to collect these guns and weapons from homes. I believe that the city must make a proactive contribution. Anonymously, citizens of our city can submit these weapons to the government without any worries about legal prosecution. This is a project done in anonymity. Anonymity is quite important to build a confidence and trust. This is the Mexico City's project. Engaging citizens is quite important for the young people.

Moderator

Thank you very much. We have received comments, and also, earlier, we have received two questions. I would like to ask the five representatives here to respond shortly, one minute each, starting with Hannover City, please.

Mr. Thomas Hermann

About the project "50 Cities – 50 Traces," you will get some more information at the exhibition in the library, and we will present this project on Thursday in Session IV in details. So I won't say anything more about this. I think what you mentioned is that we need to get young people involved in peace education. We certainly need a peaceful society in our cities and create such society together. If we don't have peace, the world will be in external fears without peace. So I think this is the work we can do to bring peace to our cities and create good conditions to live together in a peacefully. Thank you.

Mr. Jaime Fresnedi

Based on the documentary as presented, as young as 7 years old are recruited to become Islamic extremists. This is the way now going on, especially in Mindanao. Mindanao is in the southern part of the Philippines. The President of the Republic of the Philippines declared martial law. Because of the problem of extremists, in fact, Marawi City, for the past almost 70 days, fighting between the military and extremists is going on. Based on the explanation given by the authority, the reason why these children as young as 7 years old are being recruited is poverty. Also discrimination against those in Mindanao area. So, local governments are concerned, including the Metro Manila, the heart of the

Philippines. We are the first local government to establish the Muslim Affairs Office. Also, traders from Mindanao are now going or spreading to other parts of the country, especially in Metro Manila. We want to let these Mindanao or Marawi traders feel that they are also being protected by the city government through the office that we established. In fact, the first local government outside of Mindanao who donated money to Marawi is Muntinlupa. We donated 2 million pesos to start, at least to uplift the sufferings, and also, lighten the burden. Probably outside of Mindanao, the city council is discussing about the possibility of adopting 1,000 students. We will give financial assistance to 1,000 students so that they could go back to school and return to education. We believe, local governments in other areas needs to be involved as this is an issue of our country. Based on the discussion that we just had, inviting experts about Mindanao issues to come out with a solution. We are also helping through peace education. Now we are coordinating with the Department of Education on peace education for junior and senior high school students in the City of Muntinlupa. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Mayor Cibot, please.

Mr. Michel Cibot

I think there is one thing which is very clear. I think it was a very valid question. For instance, a mayor from Switzerland asked what political role cities can play. In the case of French government, we are a nuclear-armed state and the national government has been supporting nuclear policies, and they have influenced public opinion. I think the issues of violence need to be systematically analyzed. Violence are all connected, and the starting point of violence is poverty. In France, 3 billion euros have been spent on nuclear weapons, and the new government is planning to double the expenditures. That amount of budget could be used for eradicating poverty. So we need a systematic comprehensive approach. Violence is related to nuclear violence. Radiation will kill our future. We have to thoroughly look at all those issues systematically.

Mr. Philippe Rio

Mayor Cibot already expressed what I wanted to talk about, so it's difficult but still, I would like to say a few words. We are here on this stage and we all are connected by

our wishes for peace. Memories and prevention should not be separated. In order to inherit the memories you need peace education, and a systematic approach. The representative from Mexico City mentioned that there are violence in your neighborhood. Weapons in Mexican families or the cases in the Philippines. These cases are related to nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons are the most destructive weapon, but biological weapons and chemical weapons are also very devastating. We have seen the cases of the use of chemical weapons in Syria. We need to exchange ideas as to what can be the best practices, and we have to apply pressures on our national governments. Education for peace must become part of the national curriculum of education. In the French Chapter, this is what we are trying to achieve. Although the national curriculum is not responding to our request yet, we are going to take all the opportunities to promote education for peace. There are series of war happening in the world. There are new types of warfare, including terrorism, and terrorism can happen or is happening in many places in the world. Our weapon is intellect and this can be used only through education.

Moderator

Ayabe City, please.

Mr. Zenya Yamazaki

I don't think I have the capability to cover the whole world, so I will talk about Japan. I am a politician, and for politicians, elections are quite important. We need to secure votes to be elected. That means it's quite important to bring budget from the national government to your local cities, attract industries or get road construction project. They may not be directly related to peace-related activities. However, I feel changes are coming. Especially, I see a few changes are happening among young people. The material affluence alone no longer their aspiration. They ask for psychological and spiritual richness. I see that there are more and more young people who would like to achieve spiritual richness, especially after the big earthquake in Japan with the nuclear power plant accident. They now realized that their urban life is quite vulnerable. So, they would like to go back to rural areas. They feel that there is a need to go back to the rural way of life. So this is the change we are seeing among young people. When we think about world peace and lasting world peace, the change of attitude among young

people makes us optimistic because we believe that younger generation can do something, but we need gradual efforts. As the mayor of Grigny mentioned, education is quite important. And it's important for each local government to raise their voices so those voices will be heard and communicated by mass media. We need steady and continuous efforts to shape the concept of the future generations. In that sense, I believe that Mayors for Peace is making a great contribution. In Japan, I think there was an effect to some extent in the changes of the values among young people, at least in Japan. This is what I believe to be true. Thank you very much.

Moderator

We are gradually running out of time. Already, we received many requests for comments from the floor, many from local authorities. The time is of course limited, but as you can see, we have four speakers. First is Mr. Michel Tomasek, Dunkirk Urban Community of France.

Comment from Local Authorities 2:

Mr. Michel Tomasek, Dunkirk Urban Community, France

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Twice in the 20th century, there were terrible recollection and memories in the inhabitants in Dunkirk. In 1940, 1944 and 1945, our town was destructed. We stood back up on our feet with resilience and solidarity. There has been a rise in nationalism, and we have to come up with a solution. One of the solutions I can think of is try to focus on the memories, try to recover the memories. Our memories are fading. For us, because we have experienced destruction, our Mayor of Dunkirk Urban Community, Mr. Patrice Vergriete has issued a statement to create the Memory Cities Network in 2016 in May. Hiroshima, Ypres, Rostock, Gdansk, Saint Petersburg, Volgograd, Guernica, Caen, and Oradour-sur-Glane participated. In Volgograd, there was a meeting held on Memory Cities. Indeed the objective is a quite common with Mayors for Peace. The towns, which were once destructed, to be resuscitated. How are we going to reconstruct towns once ruined into ashes? If there are culture and heritages we need to regain, how are we going to do so? And how can we have the balance between memories and remembrance? In the rise of nationalism, we have to have a solid understanding and approach. Once again, we have to regain our memories. That's for our future. Based on the foundational memories, we have to stand

up on our feet. Christopher Nolan, a director, shot the film *Dunkirk*. Last month, it made a box office record. I believe this movie will attract visitors to our city. It may offer an opportunity to think about the memories of the war. We need to fight against wars. We have to communicate the message for peace. It is not a simple thing, but for us living in this world, we have to look at what's happening in reality, and we have to have a clear-cut analysis. Young people have the responsibility for the future. Where are they from? Where are their parents from? Where were their ancestors from? What were their experiences? That has to be known to the young people. That is going to be their commitment for the future.

Moderator

Thank you very much. From India, Mr. Thomas Mathew, please.

Comment from Local Authorities 3:

Mr. Thomas Mathew, Mallapuzhasserry, India

Good afternoon, respected mayors, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. There are many definitions and suggestions about peace. But the horror of wars, civil unrest, authoritarian rules, poverty, political agendas, etc. are mainly behind the difficulty of peaceful coexistence of humanity. At the same time, using science and technology for developing more sophisticated weapons, nuclear bombs, missiles, submarines, etc. taking away the efforts to make more advanced life of common people. We need to overcome it by common citizen's awareness; they are the force behind the success of democracy and for a more peaceful world through electing their leaderships. Peace education through grass root level movements and educational institutions are very important to spread the importance of world peace and the methodology to achieve it. Ordinary citizens have been accessing to only limited information about the world peace problems or nuclear threats which may destroy the planet once and forever. Peace education is the tool for common people to fight against the thirst of the war or war mania. We have successfully organized more than 400 Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Education exhibitions and seminars across India and few in Nepal and Sri Lanka since 1990. My city Mallapuzhasserry, Kochi Metro City and YMCA India were fortunate to welcome Peace Boat Global Voyage for a Nuclear Free World in 2015 and 2016 in India, and participated in "I was at her age" project. Our NGO SEEDS-India in

Mallapuzhasserry, a small city in India, also organized Hibakusha Peace Tour in India in 1990, 1995, 1996, 1998 and 2012. Our city and 2020 Vision Campaign collected 10,000 peace signatures from India and handed over to the Honorable Mayor of Hiroshima City, Mr. Kazumi Matsui on August 5, 2015 at Mayor's Chamber, Hiroshima. Today, I am proudly handing over another 10,000 signatures collected from different cities of India by last one year to enhance our efforts for a nuclear free world. I admire all the efforts and guidance of Mayors for Peace for a better, peaceful and just world. Now may I invite the honorable mayor to receive the peace signatures from India?

Moderator

Please give a big applause. Thank you very much Mr. Mathew and Mayor Matsui. Now, going back to Japan, Mr. Kenji Kitahashi, Mayor of Kitakyushu City, please.

Comments from Local Authorities 4:

Mr. Kenji Kitahashi, Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan

Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, first I would like to express my heartfelt respect to all of you for your dedication to our work. Kitakyushu City is an industrial city, 200 kilometers to the east of Nagasaki. Seventy-two years ago, B-29 bomber aircraft flew not to Nagasaki, but to Kitakyushu. Because of the poor visibility with clouds, they couldn't drop the bomb on our city, but they dropped it on Nagasaki. So we, the citizens of Kitakyushu feel equally deeply pained by the sorrow of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Kitakyushu City declared itself a peace and non-nuclear city, and every year on August 9, in the central park of our city, in front of the Nagasaki Peace Bell, we have been holding the Peace Memorial Ceremony for many years now. Also on August 9, we send 150 pairs of parent and child as peace ambassadors to Nagasaki.

There is a girl named Kayoko Hayashi who died at the age of 15. In Shiroyama Elementary School, there is a cherry tree dedicated to her. Memories are gradually fading away, but we have a sincere desire to pass on the memory to the next generation. So our city decided to plant saplings, derived from this particular cherry tree, in all elementary schools and junior high schools with the involvement of citizens. We finished planting in all of these schools. In public spaces, such as parks, we are going to plant the saplings together with the citizens so that we can pass over our memories to

the next generation.

We have decided to construct a peace museum. It may take several years, but learning from the examples of the museums in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are going to construct a peace museum to pass on the experience to the next generation. My mother is a hibakusha, so I am the second generation. Nuclear weapon abolition has been an issue which has been always close to my heart. Sometimes I feel difficulties, but by attending this Mayors for Peace General Conference, I am encouraged every time I'm here. Going beyond national boundaries, cities need to be united, and as we do so I'm sure that the ideal situation will come closer to us. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. The last speaker is from Iraq. From the City of Rawanduz, MP. Serwan Abdullah Ismail, former mayor, please.

Comments from Local Authorities 5:

Mr. MP. Serwan Abdullah Ismail, Former Mayor of Rawanduz, Iraq

Mr. Chairman, conference members, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen. First of all, I would like to pass a warmest greeting from Peshmergas of Kurdistan to distinguished hibakusha and to soul of samurai, as well to the conference members. As an ex-mayor of Rawanduz City of Kurdistan, it's a great honor to be here today to share with you the tragedies of the attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. During the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, we provided a brief description of Kurdistan and our nation's struggle and suffering from chemical attacks and genocide. Since then, we have suffered several tragedies. Many countries and cities have been destroyed, and we have lost so many loved ones, some Kurds, Arabs, Yazidis, Christians, and particularly among our samurai, the Peshmerga, Kurdistan's international freedom fighters because they fought against ISIS for the last three years on behalf of the international community.

On the morning of June 9, 2014, we woke and realized that a new neighboring terrorist country on the border of Kurdistan with 1,050 kilometers was born. Meanwhile, Iraqi government put logistic and economic sanctions on Kurdistan. However, the brave

Kurdish Peshmerga, under the leadership of His Excellency President Masoud Barzani, fought ISIS, the most horrific and vicious international terrorist organization dangerous as atomic bombs. Eventually, Peshmerga defeated ISIS and extended extra guard to Kobane City in Kurdistan, and created great history as a symbol of international liberation.

After 13 years of bombardment, the City of Halabja was exposed to chemical weapons, and ISIS used chemical weapons against Kurdish Peshmerga and the Iraqi military. ISIS's brutal actions against Yazidis and Sinjar City are considered as the 21st century genocide against humanity and Yazidis minority and Kurdistan. The Kurdistan region demonstrated a magnificent example of democracy and tolerance by welcoming 1.8 million displaced Iraqi people and 300,000 Syrians who fled from ISIS and gave them refuge in Kurdistan.

The war led hundreds of thousands of children out of schools. ISIS and some other militias, religious and sectarian's groups were misusing young children, and put them in military bases and trained them how to use and to make weapons, including chemical weapons. Some of these children were involved in criminal and terrorist activities, and kids who survived from ISIS, needs psychology treatment. This is an extremely critical issue and we shall take it seriously, otherwise the entire humanity and the world will be at great risk. As Chairman of Education Committee, Iraqi House of Representatives, we strongly believe that the United Nations and International Committee should be more dedicated to support our tragedy. As mayors, we must all be involved and commit to our goal to convince our governments to invest on education sector. In this globalized era, education is the key solution for building nations and countries, and also for building a healthy society or raise our generations properly.

From the past century, Iraqi regimes persecuted brutally and after 14 years of the liberation of Iraq in 2003, the new centralized government of Iraq left no other choices for Kurds except for a referendum on independence, which is in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 of December 14, 1960. Article 4 states, "All armed action or repressive measures of all kinds directed against dependent peoples shall cease in order to enable them to exercise peacefully and freely their right

to complete independence, and the integrity of their national territory shall be respected.” In this regard, the Kurdistan Region Presidency decided to conduct an independence referendum on September 25, 2017. We ask for your support to influence your governments and politicians to respect our recognized result of Kurdistan’s referendum to exercise their simple right of self-determination.

We may have some irregular voices in our region that stand against Kurdistan’s referendum. However, whoever stands against the referendum, they should realize that they are against the principles of democracy that is contrary to international laws because they are seizing and violating the simple right of our nation.

Finally, the Kurdistan Regional Government and Iraqi government are fully supporting the aims of Mayors for Peace conference, and in order to execute these goals as mayors and world leaders, we should take more responsibility and put more pressure on world leaders to convince them to go toward banning nuclear and chemical weapons to save the world and civilization. The mayor and delegates of Kurdistan are standing with you in these efforts. Together we have a bright future ahead of us, and we look forward to the continued cooperation between our nation to prevent tyranny and to ensure global progress on the values that unite all of us to comply with the conference’s vision which is banning the nuclear weapons by the year of 2020. I wish you all the best and thank you for this opportunity.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Former Mayor Ismail. It has been extremely impressive speech which really weighs heavy on our hearts. Thank you very much. Please give him a big hand of applause once again.

Time to close the session is approaching near, but is there someone who has a burning wish to speak comment or quick question? We have five minutes. I see one person. Would you state the organization’s name and your name?

Comment from the Floor:

Ms. Mihoko Hamawaki, Japan

Thank you very much for giving me the floor. I do not belong to any organization. I'm a just a citizen. I live in Nagasaki and I was born and grew up in this city. As a citizen, I would like to say a few words, and that is the reason why I took the floor. My grandmother was born in Shanghai and she was exposed to the A-bomb in Hiroshima and she came to Nagasaki. That was how our family started to live in Nagasaki. I finished my school education in Nagasaki until high school. So, I am one of those who received peace education you discussed about. I listened to the testimonies of hibakusha, and on August 9, we go to school and we assemble in the school gym, and for years and years, we continued to listen to testimonies of hibakusha in school. After finishing my high school education, I went to Nagasaki University for two years, and then went to a university in Tokyo. I'm really delighted that people highlighted and spoke very much about Nagasaki, but in Japan, there seems to be a big gap concerning peace education and how people think of peace education in Japan. For instance, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and also A-bomb, those words are part of our daily life, but that is not the case for people in Tokyo. For people in Tokyo, A-bomb is such a distant thing. It's something they have nothing to do about. I studied law in university, and I have one experience at the University of Tokyo. Professor Michael Sandel came to Tokyo for a lecture, regarding the A-bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He asked whether we demand apology from the United States. I took the floor and I said, I am the third generation hibakusha and looking back on the education I received, I have some kind of hatred toward nuclear weapons but I couldn't answer to the question. After I went to law school, I continued to try to find an answer to this difficult question, and one answer I came up within myself is that our country is under the rule of law. Each country has their own laws and rules, and we have conventions.

I think it is very important that we learn peace education with the importance on decision making in accordance with the laws and conventions. I recently watched a documentary film on Tokyo Tribunal, and there was a question dealt with that whether an individual is held accountable for what happened during a war. So what I want to ask you is to think about peace education not just about transmission of memories. For instance, knowledge about the laws, regulations and conventions, we need to understand how a certain convention is made, and also, peace education is about development at large. So for the future generations, I hope that they will learn what they can learn and

what they can use for productive discussions.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Would you please state your name if you do not mind?

Ms. Mihoko Hamawaki

Mihoko Hamawaki.

Moderator

Thank you. I think it's now time to close our meeting, but before that, I would like to ask Mr. Komizo, Secretary General to give a wrap up.

Summary:

Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, Japan

It's an impossible job for me to give the summary. We listened to the presentations from five speakers. Hannover, indeed, starting from the membership fees with a lot of ideas started to have the succession and continuity of the memories including the youth education. They were all included in our action plan, indeed.

Muntinlupa is on the verge of difficulties. The city is close to Manila in Luzon Island, but you talked about Mindanao, where there are a lot of Islamic people who are faced with challenges and difficulties, and you also talked about the need of peace education. It is totally apart from the ideological importance of peace education.

And also Michel, our senior boss, maybe much younger than myself, but when it comes to your experiences in Mayors for Peace, and activities you are engaging, you know the power of nuclear weapons, much more than any representatives from any other countries because of your country. And you have been engaging yourself in the nuclear weapon abolition, as a super partisan representative of civil society. Be it terrorism, nuclear weapons, and peace education, seemingly, they might be separated out, but they are all interconnected. I believe that was the appeal you made. Through the activities in the past, we have discussed with representatives from different countries, in the past several years, about how we can create a nuclear-free world. Be it terrorism, immigrants

and refugees and environment, these have to be incorporated and embraced in our activities. Only we have the strong interest in these issues. We can understand the real threat of the nuclear weapons as well as the implications of the nuclear weapons.

From Grigny, Mayor, although you said you are young, or somebody said you are young, but still, you recognized the importance of the challenge, not only for the City of Grigny, but also you have given us the quick rundown of what's happening in the other cities of France. Including the youth activities and also as well as exemplified by the statement by the lady from Nagasaki, it is not just keeping memories. What is a strong message and who are the receivers of these messages? It's not just giving a message from one to the other.

Youths have to understand themselves through different ways: art, economy and laws. They would be able to create their model very close to them. There is a need for peace education. Otherwise, why do hibakusha keep sending their message? For them, they still have series of flashbacks and terrible memories which cannot be spoken of. But what is the messages they are sending? And what is the future of young people? We should never have to live in an era of war. Your hope, your wishes and children's dreams and mothers' dreams, how can we realize their dreams for the future? We have to have a good education so that young people would be embraced with such strength. I'm not a descendent of hibakusha, but I interview and listen to their stories every week. The message of hibakusha is for the young people to have a bright future. That is the only wishes of hibakusha. In order to do so, we have to know what happened in the past. How atrocious, how miserable things one can do against the other. Terrible, atrocious acts can be imposed by a human against another human. That can happen in this human society. How can young people build up our future society? Only you can understand these things. You can understand why hibakusha share their experiences. They do have the feelings of retaliation. They do have hatred, but they know that the hatred and evil mind alone will not create a bright future. Unless you understand the feelings of hibakusha, you will not be able to put your hands together to create the future. These are the feelings which are kept in the minds of hibakusha. They are saying, "Do not let other people, young people go through the same suffering."

We have 7,400 membership in Mayors for Peace. It was 4,500 five years ago, but it has increased to 7,400. It is expected to increase more. Why? Because the mayors are responsible for protecting their citizens for peace, for their well-beings, and create vibrant cities with the sense of responsibility. They have to listen to the strong voices of hibakusha so that they can put their hands together to build a peaceful future. That is the reason why we are gathered here. There may be some objection in cities regarding attending this conference. Some even failed in the election because they were not in town. But in this kind of meeting, you will be able to listen to the voices of the others, they are standing on their feet right now, they are appealing to us all the way.

Mr. Mathew of India was once arrested. Majority of the people in India are happy, saying that, "We now have nuclear weapons." But Mr. Mathew is a fair person. There was a person from Pakistan, and Japan was accused that they might resort to possess the nuclear weapons. This Pakistani, after coming to the Peace Museum, said, "Nuclear weapons will not benefit anybody. Together, we have to create a world without nuclear weapons." This is a person who is giving advice to the Pakistani government. Indeed, this is the spirit and wishes of hibakusha.

We have to have the understanding of young people and they need to think about with their intelligence and wisdom about the future. There is no guarantee, but in Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Dunkirk, there are many people who are trying to stand up on their feet and build a future. We can count on them. We have the confidence. We have the mayors gathered here, and some mayors who are not here share the same perception. If we cooperate together, have strong feelings to the people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I think we will be able to do something. We have to create a peace model around us. Mayor of Ayabe said that Palestine is a far country, and we might not have close feelings as much as the examples of the children of Palestine and Israel, but it's possible to invite those children to our place. That's one good model. How can we create a model? Anybody can do this, and probably we would be able to achieve the objectives of Mayors for Peace.

In the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which was adopted, there were a lot of proposals made from Mayors for Peace. We were able to encourage and move the

leaders of states, and some additional provisions were added because of the proposals and suggestions made by Mayors for Peace. So the treaty is based upon the spirit of respecting diversity and to work toward the same goal of achieving nuclear weapons abolition from various pathways and perspectives. These are the spirits of Mayors for Peace, and that is why some of the draft wording of the treaty was amended in the process of negotiation. To each mayors here and to each one of you, I would like to sincerely thank for your dedication to this important cause. In order to realize a world where our wishes are realized and to celebrate our wonderful friendship, I hope all of us will continue to work together, and we will take care of ourselves. Thank you very much. I have spoken too long.

Moderator

Thank you very much Mr. Komizo, Secretary General. Thank you very much for the very passionate words. It's really time, and according the scenario, I am to give the last comment, but I will not do that. Just one sentence. As I listened to the discussion, I saw a photograph of Dr. Einstein. Pugwash Conference was created based upon the Russell-Einstein Manifesto and I would like to quote one phrase from that. Let's say this together. I think you all know this. "Remember your humanity and forget the rest." These are the last words we would like to say together. Are you ready? Let's say this together. "Remember your humanity and forget the rest." Thank you very much. This concludes Session II. Thank you very much.

MC

Thank you very much, everyone. This conclude Session II. I would like to thank all of you for your cooperation for the smooth conduct of the discussion and meeting.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session III The Role of Youth

August 9 (Wed), 2017 13:45-16:15
Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Moderator:

Keiko Nakamura

Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition
(RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

Greeting:

Taro Kono

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan

Introduction of Peace Activities:

Sean Morris

Principal Policy Officer, Manchester, UK

Josep Mayoral

Mayor of Granollers, Spain

**Representatives of Hiroshima Commercial High School and Nagasaki
Commercial High School, Japan**

Case Report:

Nagasaki Youth Delegation

Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers

NET-GTAS, Kyoto University of Foreign Studies

Moderator: Ms. Keiko Nakamura, Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

We are going to start Session III “The Role of Youth.” I am acting as the moderator. I am with Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA) in Nagasaki University, My name is Keiko Nakamura. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

This Session III is a new trial for Mayors for Peace. Of course in the past, in Mayors for Peace, we were giving strong support for the activities by youths in the world, but we would like to take one step further for the future. With the mayors from different cities, we hope we will be able to have a collaboration and cooperation with the young people, and make a plan, and get the fruits out of the discussion between the mayors and youths toady. This is our plan. I hope we will be able to listen to very enterprising and creative ideas which can only come out from the minds of youths. Today is indeed the day for the anniversary of 72 years after A-bombing in Nagasaki. Let’s hear the voices of the young people as well as the voices of the representatives of mayors.

Let’s move on to the program. Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs is going to address to you as one of the guests. Please.

Greeting: Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen. Following the suit of the former Foreign Minister, Mr. Kishida who is from Hiroshima, I have taken the position of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. This is the seventh day since I took this position. I am very much strongly determined to do my job. Thank you very much for your invitation to the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace.

After the Hiroshima meeting in 2013, following the previous meeting, in this very place of Nagasaki which was hit by A-bomb, participated by many people from all over the world, this meeting is now being held. I am very much grateful with your presence to all the people who are gathered here. Today, I would like to pay my strong esteem to all of you who are devoting yourselves in search for nuclear weapon abolition, and creating the lasting world peace. Thank you indeed very much.

When I was a grade school child, my father, then a young member of the House of Representatives, went to Washington and Moscow with the film of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. My father has shown this film in the two countries and came back. It was in the midst of the Cold War. Showing this film of A-bombing in the two countries was quite controversial. There were a lot of affirmative opinions as well as the negative opinions. My father came back to Japan and told me about the reactions of the people there. I still remember this clearly. Because of those experiences, for me, when I was elected for the first time as a member of the parliament, I was assigned as a member of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), an international Parliamentarian Association for the nuclear weapons abolition, and I was assigned as the representative on behalf of Japan. Needless to say, Japan is the only A-bombed state in the world. When it comes to the atrocity of the use of nuclear weapons and preciousness of the peace, Japan should know. Japanese people should know. And people in Nagasaki and Hiroshima know better than any other people.

To have a precise recognition on the reality of A-bombing, which would create a foundation from which international community can accord with and take an action, by putting their hands together towards the great aspiration of realizing a “world without nuclear weapons.” If there was another use of A-bomb, what would happen? That has to be clearly communicated to the others. I believe this is the foundation from which international community can take action. Atrocity of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, from generation to generation and from border to border of the country has to be communicated. That is the mission given to us.

The theme of the session, I believe, is “The Role of Youth.” As the driving force for the future, it is quite important for young people to recognize the threats of nuclear weapons and enhance their awareness to understand that disarmament is indispensable for the realization of world peace. In that sense, you have gathered here today in Nagasaki on this day, at this A-bombed place, to report your day-to-day activities as well as to have exchange opinions on peace education and peace activities. This alone presents a very significant experience for the government of Japan. We would like to push forward your wishes to create a nuclear-free world. Because of this, we launched the Youth

Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons. We are determined to expand such measure further.

As to the means how disarmament should be progressed, unfortunately, there is a confrontation between nuclear-weapon nations and non-nuclear-weapon nations, and that confrontation is serious. We, in Japan, as the only A-bombed country in the world, are determined to steadfastly maintain the three non-nuclear principles, to act as a bridge between nuclear-weapon nations and non-nuclear-weapon nations, and to take an initiative to rebuild confidence between the two confronting parties. We also hope to create an international momentum in leading up to the success of the 2020 NPT Review Conference. For that matter, we shall continue to take positive actions to invite many world political leaders and young people to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kishida had a strong leadership. The CTBT Regional Meeting was held under his initiative. Last year, Myanmar participated in the CTBT, and the last remaining country in the Southeast Asia, Thailand, is about to join in this CTBT deal. Of course, the goal is not too near, but we have to move forward steadfastly. Russia, UK, France; nuclear-weapon nations are members of the CTBT, but there are nations that have not yet joined the CTBT. In such circumstances, for example, somewhere on the globe, if a nuclear testing is held, we have to have the mechanism through which we are able to monitor them. We are now building up such system with the cooperation of many people and countries. Japan should take an initiative to lead the way to realize the CTBT. In order to realize a nuclear-free world, not only the government but also each one of the citizens should give his thoughts from all different perspectives to the path forward. By accumulating such activities, I'm sure we will increase momentum towards nuclear disarmament. Your activities in Mayors for Peace, indeed, are for that purpose. I am wishing for the further development and prosperity of your association.

Lastly, I in marking the 9th General Conference, people have gathered not only from Japan, but also from all over the world. Once again, my thanks to you all, and I would like to state my own determination to move forward together with you to realize a nuclear-free world. With this, I would like to conclude my remarks. For the young

people, the driving force for the future, I hope you will be able to feel the wishes of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and move forward. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kono, for giving us very encouraging message, especially to young people.

Next, we are going to have presentations by Mayors for Peace city mayors, talking about their own peace activities. Each presentation will be given in seven minutes. First presentation is from the City of Manchester in UK. Mr. Sean Morris, Principal Policy Officer is going to give the presentation.

Introduction of Peace Activities 1:

Mr. Sean Morris, Principal Policy Officer, Manchester, UK

Hello, my name is Sean Morris. I'm a policy officer in Manchester City Council. I am the secretary of UK & Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA), and secretary of UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter. I've been asked to speak to you today about Manchester's work in promoting a nuclear-weapons-free world, and how we are trying to educate children for some of these issues. What I will briefly talk about in my seven minutes is what Manchester's role has been in promoting a nuclear-weapons-free world in the UK and Ireland and the wider world. The work of my organization, NFLA and what we do with Mayors for Peace, our role as a Lead City of Mayors for Peace, and principally what I'm going to talk about is the development of Project G, an innovative project where we are trying to support the work of hibakusha and the work of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I will talk about some key milestones for that project, and our peace education and our plans for the future.

Many of you at the back of the audience, weren't born in 1980 when our organization was formed. At that time, the world was, a bit like today, it was recognized as a dangerous place. We had the United States, so we had to stop the Union, we had a Cold War, and in the UK, we had nuclear weapons being brought to bases around the country. In Manchester, we were very worried about what that may lead, that maybe an attack on our city and an attack of nuclear weapons. And our council concerned about that

decided to go and declared itself a “nuclear weapon free” zone. The first in the world to do so, and many hundreds more decided to do the same. The little plaque you see on the slide, it’s on the front door of Manchester Town Hall. Even after 37 years, we are very proud to still say that we are a nuclear-weapons-free city. For that as well, it is an early form of peace education, and what we did in the early years was peace education. We developed Peace Gardens, we try to understand how nuclear weapon attack would affect our people, and we lobbied again at international level. We started two years before Mayors for Peace began. The previous mayor of Hiroshima said to me that the NFLA was bit of a template to declaration of Mayors for Peace organization, so we are very proud of that and our role in that. We joined Mayors for Peace in 1984, and we were very honored to be asked from mayor of Hiroshima to become a Vice President in 2001.

The rest of my slides are lots of pictures because I think a picture says much more than lots of words. These pictures are some of what we do with Nuclear Free Local Authorities. We have gone to every Mayors for Peace conference since we joined Mayors for Peace, and we are very keen to work with children. That was me, eight years ago in Hiroshima, on the far left, with my Chairman seeing lots of children talking about peace with them as well. On the bottom left I’ve gone to Hiroshima and Nagasaki exhibition about what happened there which we hope to send out all over the UK. We see ministers here. We’ve just seen the minister here. That was the UK Foreign Minister we met. We go to the UN with Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and that’s my Chairman meeting Ban Ki-moon of the UN as well.

And we work very much with Mayors for Peace organization. We go to all the meetings, we talk with all our fellow Vice Presidents. In 2011 we were very proud to have the mayor of Nagasaki to Manchester, and we have held the exhibition in one of our museums, and he spoke out, and that is our Lord Mayor with the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the previous Lord Mayor on the bottom left again, at the last conference in Hiroshima. We also go to all places Mayors for Peace goes to, we worked very close with all the cities in the executive conference. That was our Manchester Councilor speaking at the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate of Ypres. And we feel that peace education is well promoting the work of what happens in Ypres every day at the same time. And on the bottom left there, you have the start of the world bike ride for

peace, and the Norwegian group we work with. You also have the Norwegian Prime Minister there as well, and our Lord Mayor in our beautiful Town Hall. A great example for promoting sports as a part of promoting peace in the world.

We have set Mayors for Peace Chapter open, and one of things we've done with the Mayors for Peace Chapter is the one with Japanese group Peace Boat. We had an event in London, at the House of Parliament, with the Peace Boat group, where they talked about the history and the work of Hiroshima and Nagasaki hibakusha. There you see on the bottom, on the middle photograph, we also have some art from an art teacher whom inherited drawings by children who were in school in 1950s in Hiroshima. That art went to the United States, UNESCO Conference, and then got back to this teacher. He donated that to the council, and last year, that's the artwork that's gone back to school in Hiroshima where, if you see on the bottom left there or bottom right there, it's now with the teachers and children of that school. Just another form of peace education in its own way as well.

What I'm going to talk about for the rest of the presentation is what we call Project G. What you see there are seeds that we received from Hiroshima three years ago, that came from a tree that was damaged in the bomb on August 6, but sprouted in the following year and these seeds originate from that tree. In Manchester when we got these seeds we thought what work to do with it. What is the good project to do? We felt it was really important, and we brought children into the debate around this issue and some other issues. So what we developed was a learning project where six schools in Manchester to do some arts, to do some poetry, to learn about what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. And also about the importance of the nature, in rebuilding land devastated by the atomic bomb.

So these are the two of the paintings, to win the entries from our project. We put them forward and they all receive certificate, and on the 70th anniversary of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki attacks, we held an exhibition of them at the Manchester Museum, and the children came to that event and learned a bit more about what also happened in the two cities. Hiroshima was very excited by our project, and we were honored that the mayor of Hiroshima then came to Manchester, and the children involved in developing

the painting and poetry, presented their work and talked about what peace meant to them to the two mayors, and received books from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The building they are in is the Rutherford Institute, and that was where the atoms were split in Manchester University. So that's like the beginning of what was a nuclear age. It seemed very important tool to talk about the nuclear in very direct way and Manchester's role in it, but it was very important for children to talk to the mayors about what they understood about what Hiroshima and Nagasaki means to them really. And it was a beautiful day and a lovely event.

We will continue the event in the future, and a few months ago, we had two hibakusha from Hiroshima. They came for a week around the UK. They met with politicians in Westminster and at Scottish Parliament, but in Manchester, we wanted them to meet the children. So they came to our Town Hall, and they talked about their experience as young children affected by the bomb, two children who were hurt by the bomb. There were lots of questions and lots of discussion with the children, and lots of debate about what they could do in their school when they returned. The children also met them in a stately home where the seeds are being grown. At the picture there, it's the hibakusha meeting with some of the children, and seeing the seeds being grown in Manchester.

To just to finish with this as well, this year, you would probably have seen on May 22 in Manchester Arena, at Ariana Grande pop concert, there was a bomb in our city. Twenty-two people were killed, most of them were children of your age. That was a tremendous shock for our city, and really hurt our city very much. You'll see all the flowers from that incident. Those flowers are now being dried and they will all be given to the families of those who died. But in Manchester we have a very strong spirit. We are a very proud city, we are very community-oriented city and we are an international city of many people from many parts of the world. So when this incident happened, we said, "No, this is not what our city is about. We are a city that wants to believe in a more peaceful world." And from the very beginning of the incident, we promoted peace. On the top, right there, it's all of our community leaders from different religious faiths, the police, politicians and young people coming together to sign a pledge, "We stand together for a more peaceful world."

That's a very short presentation about what we are doing in Manchester. And this is a short part of what we do in peace education. What we also do in peace education is we developed a City Centre Peace Trail, with six of European cities which look our history of our city as a city of peace. I have copies of this afterwards, anyone would like to have, I'm very happy to hand one. I only have a few, but I can give you more if you give me your business card. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now, the City of Granollers from Spain, Mayor Mayoral is going to give us the speech. I'm so sorry that the time is very limited. You are given just seven minutes. Thank you.

Introduction of Peace Activities 2:

Mr. Josep Mayoral, Mayor of Granollers, Spain

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to be given this opportunity to speak in front of you. Also, Mayor Taue gave a wonderful speech today. It was extremely impressive and we were so moved. Thank you very much, Mayor Taue, for such a moving speech. There is one more gratitude I would like to express, that we are given this chance to have discussion with young people. Young people have many years to lead the world.

The City of Granollers is to the east of Barcelona, with the population of about 70,000. Granollers has a strong sense of responsibility for peace because of its history. We had very sad and serious tragedy in the civil war in Spain. The incident took place on May 31, 1938. Over 200 people died within just one minute, and the population at that time was only 12,000. As you can see in those photographs, the whole town was devastated. Mussolini was the Prime Minister of Italy, and looking at this destruction, actually he was one of the culprits who did this to our city. So our city was turned to ashes in just one minute. The city has shed blood and many people died, and there were many casualties at the same time. Because of tragic this atrocity, we have a sincere desire to pass on the value of peace to the future, we have a sincere desire to pass down the tragedies of what war can do, and that is something we have to really speak with our words to the next generation.

Those are the four major principles of action. Number 1 is historical memory to recover, to conserve the historical memory for four decades. Spain was ruled by an authoritarian regime and we were not able to talk about this memory, a tragic memory. Over the years, it had been more or less buried underneath the ground, as we were not able to talk about it. So we have to recover such tragic history, and as citizens of Nagasaki and Hiroshima continue to do so, we need to recollect and continue to transmit this tragic history that took place in 1938.

Many people gather at the grave and we dedicate flowers at the memorial ceremony. Also, we are considering to construct a peace memorial museum, and through the exhibition there, we need to pass on the tragedy of our city. We had to protect ourselves with air-raid shelter and we are going to make a replica of the air-raid shelter, and we still conserve the air-raid shelters. We identified areas which were heavily bombarded, and the people of the Red Cross discussed about the children, how the city was bombarded, and how people died in agony. There are storytellers who give account of what happened to many children including young people and they continue to tell their testimonies.

We also believe in other work of city diplomacy as a very important and valuable activity. The city may have a small power, but by connecting cities in diplomacy, we are able to become an influential force that can move the world. So, through networking, we are dedicated to raise the voices of cities.

Also, as one program, we have a sense of responsibility for peacemaking, and we need to place it in all activities we do. In doing so, as members of the local authorities and citizens, we are going to unite those who are responsible and execute the responsibility for peace through program such as education for peace.

The fourth point is the importance of education, which is education for peace. Needless to say, education is very important. Only through education, we can change the attitudes of citizens. There are seven activities or seven actions which are the missions we need to execute. Those seven conducts are behaviors we promote in our

education for peace. Number 1 is the education for peace for children. What happened in our city, the tragic air-raid history has to be passed on to other people and generations. And also, how the bombardment took place, and how people fled and took refuge in air-raid shelters. How they were killed. We will continue to tell these stories to the next generation.

Also, we consider generational activities very important. Like hibakusha in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we have survivors of the air raid. Those witnesses, old women and men, from grandparents to parents to children, we need to pass on such stories and testimonies. We would like to become a city toward peace.

Next important point is the international cooperation or exchange through cultural exchange. We interact with people around the world, and through this, we would like to continue to build a network among citizens, especially youths from around the world. Every year on May 31, in school education setting, we go through activities so as not to forget the bombing. For instance, like this slide shows, we were air raided and our city was turned to ashes. With our history, we have to bear in mind the importance of peace, and we have to move on toward the future. And that is something we convey to our children. The youths, children, adults and also elderly people, all of them are engaged in the inter-generational activities to create a new culture of peace. Dramas and musical concerts, those cultural activities work as medium for us to transmit the joy to be alive. And through such activities, we educate children and young people about our thoughts and history of citizens and the city through various media, including cultural activities. This is the central part of our activities.

There are so many small activities we do. What I would like to stress is that we need to fight to win peace. And as social culture, we need to get the peace culture and we need to win our identity through struggle like that. The world peace is essential and fundamental part of our education. And a culture of peace is the central piece of all education programs. That is the essential key for constructing a peaceful world. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Lastly, we would like to invite the representatives of Hiroshima Commercial High School and Nagasaki Commercial High School to present. Those are the representatives of students of commercial high schools.

Introduction of Peace Activities 3:

Representatives of Hiroshima Commercial High School and Nagasaki Commercial High School, Japan

We are from Nagasaki Commercial High School and Hiroshima Commercial High School. Because we are both located in A-bombing sites, and are commercial schools established by the city, we started our exchanges in 2007, and in 2009 we became sister schools. On August 6 and 9 of every year, we visit each other and we exchanged the Bells of Peace from Nagasaki and Hiroshima to deepen our relationship. And, we have created the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Joint Peace Declaration. We would like to introduce you the activities which are carried out in each of the schools to create peace.

Starting from Hiroshima Commercial High School, we have four cases to present. This marks the 11th event of Hiroshima Commercial High School Peace Department Store. There are many schools holding such event as commercial activity, but ours held under the theme of peace, which is quite rare among those department stores, run by commercial high schools. And we are contributing to peace through our commercial activities and donating part of the proceeds to peace activities in the two cities.

Number 2 is the Peace Learning in which students act as teachers, as the next generation tellers. One of the features are, in the second year of high school, we learn about our sister school, Nagasaki Commercial High School's history as well as what had happened in Nagasaki, and to try to understand peace from the Nagasaki perspective.

The third event is donation and contribution of Peace Bell. We decided to have the same donation project. The Hiroshima Peace Bell is rung in the Peace Memorial Ceremony on August 6. We created replicas of this bell, and donated them to our peers. We have also engraved a calligraphy of the word "hope," which was written by Mayor Matsui. Those replicas of Peace Bell were donated, not only to Nagasaki Commercial High School, but also to the Girls Commercial High School in Ishinomaki City where people

suffered and died in tsunami and earthquake.

Number 4 is Barefoot Gen Wheat Project for peace activities which we work with the “Ichinen-hokki,” a NPO group. This started five years ago. Through this project, Hiroshima City Yanominami Elementary School students joined the Hiroshima Commercial High School Peace Department Store. We are also working with the HPS International Volunteer, a NPO group in creating peace-teaching materials and diploma papers using recycled papers of paper cranes.

Now, on behalf of Nagasaki Commercial High School, let me talk about what we’ve been doing. Two years ago, when we celebrated 130th anniversary of school establishment, the Inheritance of Tradition Ceremony was held. Since established in 1885, a film clip of the school history was created with narration, including how we overcame the atrocity of A-bombing. We have also shown the lantern towers with 130 different lanterns, representing 130 years of history. The narration of the film and the lantern towers were both performed by the students. In front of 1,500 audience, then the president of the student council made a pledge, to inherit the spirit of peace and freedom from our predecessors.

Number 2 is the Drama Club activities. This is an article from the Nagasaki Newspaper, immediately after the end of the war. It says, “Nagasaki Commercial School students and parents: the class will restart from September 20.” The class restarted only 42 days after the A-bombing. Learning this fact, the drama club interviewed former students during that time and created an original scenario of a drama called: “Starting of the Class- a Ray of Light.” The main character was tormented by guilt because he survived, and was moved to hear the restart of the class. His mother encouraged him that “As long as you’re alive, you have to live to the utmost.” This drama won a prize in the prefectural contest and was performed in front of all the students.

Number 3 is the School Festival. The gigantic shadow performance began three years ago, under the title “A Beam of Hope.” An 8 × 4 meter screen was created to show the story of a couple who survived the war. What we wanted to communicate to the audience is the passion of the students during the war. The classroom as a place of hope

for the future and happiness to be alive. We are going to perform the same drama with some changes in staging at this year's school festival. Taking the opportunity of school events, we would like to look back at what happened in the war as well as imagine a future with hope.

Lastly, on August 9, we hold the Peace Assembly. In the assembly, we renew our spirit for peace. There is a musical performance and the "Hiroshima Nagasaki Commercial High School Joint Declaration" is read out.

Of course there is a limit to what we can do as the high school students, but as the high school students in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we are going to continue to appeal our wishes for peace. In closing, we would like to read out our Joint Peace Declaration. First, we will learn from the experiences hibakusha who witnessed the horrors of atomic bombings and share them with others. Secondly, we will pass on our mutual experiences to the next generation. Thirdly, we will send out the message of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to abolish nuclear weapons. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now, we are going to have case reports by some of the groups who are going to participate in the group work that follows. First is by Nagasaki Youth Delegation.

Case Report 1:

Nagasaki Youth Delegation, Japan

Good afternoon, I am Yuri Yamada, member of Nagasaki Youth Delegation. I'm honored to be here to introduce our group and our activities. Nagasaki Youth Delegation is a part of the human resource development project initiated by the PCU-NC, which stands for Prefecture and City, University, Nagasaki, and Council. PCU-NC is composed of Nagasaki Prefecture, Nagasaki City and Nagasaki University.

The project is aimed at having the youth of Nagasaki attend international conferences related to nuclear issues. The best part of this project is the opportunity to learn about current international affairs, and to get to know people who are active in the nuclear field, and learn how we transform the acquired knowledge into action. The Nagasaki

Youth Delegation was started in 2013, so this is the fifth year.

There are four major characteristics. First, the delegation is composed of distinctive members with different backgrounds. The members come from different backgrounds, and this allows us to see a problem from different perspectives and come up with new ideas. Second is being able to go to the places where the latest nuclear-related event is going on. Participating in conferences and talking to government officials and people who are famous in the nuclear field and related areas helps us deepen our understanding on relevant issues. And third is being able to obtain international perspective. By understanding different views and standpoint of countries on nuclear issues, we can build wider point of view on world affairs. And finally, above all, being able to make a plan and take actions from that. All the members have a strong desire to take actions by ourselves to eliminate and abolish nuclear weapons. So the more actions we take as members of Nagasaki Youth Delegation, the more opportunities we will be able to have.

This May, after doing lots of studies and preparations, we went to Vienna to participate in the 1st preparatory committee of the 2020 NPT Review Conference. Delegates from more than 190 countries gathered for the conference and discussed issues such as nuclear disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and peaceful use of nuclear energy and so on. During the conference, we were sitting close to the delegates and listen to them while they made their statements. We felt very much immersed. During our stay, we also had the opportunity to exchange opinions with government officials and NGOs. We also visited international organizations. We went to a Japanese school in Vienna to give lessons about nuclear weapons. We also booked a room in the UN where we held a workshop together with students from Korean universities. These experiences made us rethink seriously our roles and involvement so that the nuclear weapons will never be used again.

Currently, as part of our activities, we are giving lectures about nuclear issues to students in and out of Nagasaki Prefecture, which we call "Peace Caravan." By using various methods, we'll keep aiming a world free of nuclear weapons. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Next, Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers, please.

Case Report 2:

Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers, Japan

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. We are Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers working to realize a world without nuclear weapons and peace in the world. Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers was started in the wake of Indian and Pakistan's nuclear testing in 1998, which were not parties to NPT Treaty, and this is the 21st year. We are Imari Yasuno and Moe Sekiguchi. In August last year, we visited the UN Head Office in Geneva, Switzerland as the 19th Peace Messengers. We made speeches at the disarmament conference, and visited Disarmament Affairs Office and, we made a speech for a world free of nuclear weapons to Mary Soriman, Director of the agency. I used a photo of the corpse of the burned body during my speech, which symbolizes the A-bombing in Nagasaki, to stress the importance of peace.

We are also members of the 10,000 High School Students Signature Campaign. In Nagasaki, we have petition campaign for two hours on the street every Sunday. Peace Messengers have the role to deliver the signatures collected to the United Nations. Last year alone, we collected 125,314, and the total number of the signatures we collected has reached 1,462,912. They are now kept at the permanent part of the archive at the United Nations.

After we visited the UN, we went to various places in Japan to report our activities. And also, we had an exchange with students who came to Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Under the slogan, "our efforts are humble, but not powerless," we will continue to spread our activities in Japan and the rest of the world. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Lastly, from Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, NET-GTAS is going to make the presentation. Please.

Case Report 3:

NET-GTAS, Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, Japan

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. We are from Kyoto. My name is Abiru. We belong to NET-GTAS. The formal name in English is the Network of Translators for the Globalization of the Testimonies of Atomic Bomb Survivors. In order to know the reality of A-bombing, it is a must to listen to the voices of hibakusha survivors. They left with us a lot of testimonies, but most of them were spoken in Japanese. Therefore, it is difficult for those living in foreign countries to fully understand the testimonies of hibakusha. They know the fact that A-bombings were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, but when it comes to actually knowing what had happened, only a few people know. We have to go over the language barriers. Therefore, what we are doing is try to translate the testimonies of hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki into multilingual languages and disseminate the reality of the atomic bombing. Voices of hibakusha should be communicated correctly.

We have translated, so far, 88 video clips of the testimonies: eighteen hibakusha in thirteen different languages. We live in Kyoto. Do you know where it is? It's not just from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We are also sending out a message and are engaged in activities in Kyoto. I believe this is also important.

We have collaboration with overseas universities, for example, in Germany, we have a collaboration with the University of Bonn. They are translating the testimonies of hibakusha in their classes and made a presentation in their university. Not only in Japan, but also in many places of the world, we are hoping that such activities will be disseminated. If the testimonies can be translated into their local language, probably you don't need our existence, NET-GTAS, which is very good.

Mayors for Peace is different from the United Nations. They are not divided by the concept of nation. They are able to make best use of their local language, which will make it come closer more to peace. I believe this is the most advanced community. I have one proposal to make. Why don't you join us in translating the testimony of hibakusha from Japanese to your local language? Would you like to join us? By your local language, depending on the situation, if you can disseminate and communicate the

reality of the atomic bombing, we will be able to spread peace. I believe this is the strength of Mayors for Peace. We will be able to change the world that is our strong desire. "Through translation," may not be a very gorgeous job, but we hope we will be able to sow the peace to have the flowers in your local place. Why not join us? Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now we would like to proceed to the group work and we are going to rearrange the stage, so please wait.

I'm going to explain what you are going to do during the group work. I think you will find the list of the participants for each group. There are six groups, A to F. There are university students, high school students and overseas students, and they have already been working on this project. I'm going to introduce the members of each group later on.

For Group A, from Musashino, Japan, Mayor Morimasa Murakami is going to join the discussion.

For Group B, from Vitry-sur-Seine, France, Mayor Jean-Claude Kennedy is going to join.

For Group C, from Ypres, Belgium, Mr. Filip Deheegher, Director of the Department of Peace is going to join.

For Group D, From Mexico City, Mexico, Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, Director of the Institute of Youths is going to join us.

For Group E, from Fongo-Tongo, Cameroon, Mayor Nkenfack is going to join.

For Group F, from Biograd na Moru, Croatia, Ms. Jasminka Bajlo, Councilor of the City is going to join.

For the past three weeks, these young people have conducted research on the city which is represented by either the mayor or the representative, and they have already developed their draft plan. These young people may or may not be from Nagasaki. They used email, LINE or Skype and they have already communicated a lot among themselves. Also, they posted questions to the participating overseas and Japanese cities

and mayors. Based on the past three-weeks efforts, now each group is ready to present the plan to the city representative. And based on the advice coming from the representing city, they are going to finalize the plan. There will be two discussions. One is about long-term and the other is short-term. The short-term plan is an activity that should be implemented by the next Mayors for Peace General Conference. And the final proposal will be presented later, at the end of the group discussion. Is everybody ready to start?

Yesterday or two days earlier, we already met with the representatives or mayors for some group, but for other groups, it may be your first time to see the mayors. We may have different backgrounds, different languages, but still, we hope to have effective group discussions. We don't know what is going to happen, and that's what makes the group discussion exciting. We have 50 minutes for the group discussion, and using the screen, we are going to tell you what is happening as much as possible. I would like to offer a kind of live broadcasting of what's happening. Last night, I was told to report ongoing discussion in the groups. I hope that the participants on the floor are going to stay with us, rather than feeling relaxed, please give your focus to ongoing discussion. Is everybody ready on the stage? Now we have 50 minutes for the discussion. You can start.

Group Discussion

Moderator

I am Nakamura, reporting what's happening. On the screen you can see the young people engaging in the discussion. This is Group A, talking with Mayor Murakami of Musashino City. I'd like to introduce the seven young people individually. Please look at the screen and stay with me. Each group, a leader is assigned. For Group A, the leader is Shinji Shibata. Shibata is the student in the fourth year of the fishery science in Nagasaki University. He has been involved in many activities for peace and nuclear-free world. Recently, he is busy with the study, so he cannot leave the university. Group A has one difference from the other five groups. In Group A, there is an oversea student who does not speak Japanese, so among the members of Group A, they communicated in two languages, Japanese and English. So communications was more difficult for Group A, but they already had wonderful discussions. The next in Group A,

this is Risa Nomura, in the second year of Nagasaki University. She is a member of the Nagasaki Youth Delegation. She was at the first preparatory meeting of NPT Review Conference in Vienna. In March, she was also at the New York negotiation on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. And Naoya Takahashi, student from Kyoto University of Foreign Studies. Kyoto University of Foreign Studies is a university with NET-GTAS, and he is a member of NET-GTAS. He majors in Spanish, unfortunately, he is not with a mayor speaking Spanish, but he is good at speaking Spanish. Another member, from Meiji University, is Daichi Kawashima. He is from Fukuoka, and he has been to Nagasaki for more than 10 times. In September, he is planning to go to the Caribbean countries. If there are mayors from Caribbean area, please give him some accommodation, which will make Kawashima happy. In Group A, there is a student from abroad. Ms. Tran Phuong Thao, studying at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. Because of the Takeshima Island issue, there is a difficulty between Japan and Korea, and she has been studying the history between the two countries. The last member of Group A is Hanane Okubo, a student from Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School. Ms. Okubo attended the preparatory meeting of the NPT Review Conference as a Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons and made a presentation.

Group B's leader is Atsumi Fukui, studying at Nagasaki University, in the second year for the intercultural studies. He also attended the Vienna conference and the March conference, and he is very good at sports. And Hanako Mitsuoka, also a member of Nagasaki Youth Delegation, and she was at the New York conference in March. She is in the fourth year of the educational science. Peace Caravan, conducted by the Nagasaki Youth Delegation, brings them to various parts of Japan and she has been leading the caravan. Next member, Yukiko Kawase, a NET-GTAS member of Kyoto University of Foreign Studies. After three weeks, she is going to Canada as an exchange student. If there are any representatives of Canadian authorities, please talk to her. Next, Tatsumi Kamakura of Meiji University. He is a person who started and is leading a student organizations involved in international collaboration. Another member of Group B is Nana Yamaguchi, Hiroshima Jogakuin Senior High School. As Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons, she also went to Vienna, attended the preparatory meeting. She is from Hiroshima. That was Group B.

And Group C. The representative of Ypres, Mr. Filip Deheegher, is with seven students. Leader of Group C is Tamaki Sakai, Nagasaki Junshin Catholic University, also a member of Nagasaki Youth Delegation, attended Vienna conference and also New York conference in March. There is a mayor from Canada, and this is because I said that there is a student, Kawase, who is going to go to Canada in three weeks from now, so please exchange your name cards later. It is wonderful that you find a new relationship between the people, although it's not part of the plan. Let me continue with Group C. Tomoya Sasaki of Nagasaki University, in the fourth year of the engineering faculty, and also a former member of Nagasaki Youth Delegation. In 2014 in Vienna, there was the Third Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of the Nuclear Weapons, and he was there. I asked him how he is going to introduce himself, and he said, he loves *champon*, the typical noodle in this region in Nagasaki. Another member is Hazuki Shimomura of Ritsumeikan University of Kyoto. Ritsumeikan University is famous for the museum, Kyoto Museum for World Peace, and she is supporting the museum as a student staff. She is studying international laws. Another member is from Meiji University, Naoki Iwata. Recently, there was the New York conference, and Iwata was in the conference room when the historic treaty was adopted on July 7. He went to talk to the South African Ambassador, which shows that he is a very active person. And high school member, Kokoro Tanaka is from Kwassui Senior High School. This high school is well known for peace education in Nagasaki, and in peace education, she is engaged in development of a system called Nagasaki Archive, where people can look for and search for testimonies of hibakusha in Nagasaki. The last member with Group C, Hideaki Ko of Shudo Senior High School in the senior year, and he also took part in the preparatory meeting for the treaty. Group C is engaging in discussion with Ypres. I would like to show you how discussion is going on, and participants on the floor, I hope that you will be able to support the students during this discussion.

Now Group D. This is the table for Group D, supporting Mexico City. Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, Director of the Institute of Youths is at this table, and she is discussing with the five student members. Yuri Yamada is the leader of this group. She is the fifth Nagasaki Youth Delegation and she is the only adult, after graduating from a university, she now works at a small inn for tourists in Nagasaki, and she receives many

foreign visitors. She introduces Nagasaki City to visitors and guests, and she also works as a go-between Nagasaki citizens and foreign tourists. And now, Haruka Asada with Ritsumeikan University. She is a student staff member of Kyoto Museum for World Peace of the university. She is a student of a faculty of literature, but she says that the subject she loves the most is accounting. Now, from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Ke Kosmas Ken. Ken goes to the Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Oita Prefecture, and his current interest is Japanese politics: for instance, a crime of conspiracy or the ban on the import and export of arms. He is writing thesis on the question of whether Japan should be armed with nuclear weapons or not. And, from Kwassui Senior High School of Nagasaki, Kiyo Yamato. In 2017, she participated in the Critical Issues Forum led by Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey in the United States. Because of this experience, she was appointed as Japanese Foreign Ministry's Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons. The last member of Group D is Yuya Konishi of Shudo Senior High School of Hiroshima. He is also a Youth Communicator for a World without Nuclear Weapons, and he has attended the preparatory committee. Together with Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera from Mexico City, they are engaged in a good discussion right now. So that's all for Group D.

Now to Group E, and we are moving with a camera. They are working with Mayor Nkenfack of the City of Fongo-Tongo of Cameroon. Five student members, and the leader of Group E is Yuka Kitazato from Nagasaki University. She is the fifth member of Nagasaki Youth Delegation, and she is going to go to China for study soon, and among the participants in this Mayors for Peace conference, if there is anyone who can advise her about her studying abroad in China, please give her your advice. Now, other members of Group E. They gave us a wonderful presentation: from Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, representing NET-GTAS project, Takahiro Abiru. He is going to Kuwait next month for study, so if anyone is from the Middle East area, any mayors or representatives of the Middle East, please give him advice as he goes to Kuwait for a study next month. And from Meiji University in Tokyo, Shintaro Otsuki. His major is international law, but in fact, when I asked him what he studies today, he said, he studies wine because he would like to use wine as a bridge connecting Japan and the rest of the world. So, those of you who are interested in wine or winery, please get in touch with him after this meeting. Maybe half of the adults in this hall would be able to

give him advice about wine. Now, high school student members in Group E. Earlier, we received presentation of Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers. From Seiwa Joshi Gakuin High School in Nagasaki, Moe Sekiguchi. As you saw in the presentation, she has already made many speeches in international fora, she is a very good speaker as we have already seen. Another high school student member of Group E is from Eishin Senior High School, Mizuki Goto. She took part in the first preparatory committee meeting for the NPT Review Meeting in Vienna.

The draft has already been written and will be presented on a white paper. In the limited time of 50 minutes, they are listening to opinions from the leaders of the local authorities and in time, they have to summarize the materials for their presentation they are going to make later. So, how effectively they can spend 50 minutes is a very big hurdle for all of the groups, but we are all looking forward to the outcome of the discussion.

Now, let's move on to the last group, Group F. The local authority assigned to Group F is Biograd na Moru of Croatia, and we have Ms. Jasminka Bajlo, official mayor's proxy. Leader of Group F is Satoshi Nakagawa with Nagasaki University. He is a senior of the environmental studies department, and his area of research is behaviors and ecosystem of crabs. However, he is really interested in nuclear issues. He was at the negotiation meeting for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. And let me introduce to you to the other members of Group F. From Meiji University in Tokyo, Haruna Watanabe. She is now explaining to Ms. Jasminka Bajlo. Like Iwata, at the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, she was one of the few Japanese students who were there. Together with Iwata, students of Meiji University are in their studies, which have been using the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a model to go through a kind of a simulator that debates for the negotiation. They are led by a teacher who is a specialist in international law, so they have a good knowledge and have a high skill on discussion. In Group F, there is a foreign student. Amanda MacDonald, University of Nagasaki Siebold Campus. She is fluent in Japanese. Also, she has no problem discussing in Japanese. She is a student from Wisconsin, United States. And, last but not least for Group F, a high school student of Eishin Senior High School of Hiroshima, a sophomore, Yuta Takahashi. He is also a Youth Communicator

for a World without Nuclear Weapons and he went to a meeting in Vienna. Together with other high school students, he made a presentation for Mayors for Peace, and he was given a big applause from the audience as he was able to deliver very impressive speech in an eloquent manner.

So those are the students and the local authorities. From Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As a matter of fact, all of them represent broader regions of Japan, considering where they were born and raised. And also, we have international students in the groups. They come from different backgrounds and also the contents of peace education they received are different. They differ in the areas of interest and they differ in age, students from colleges and high school students. Going beyond these differences, they have continued their discussion.

How much time do we have left? It seems that they have 25 minutes left. So, we are about halfway through the 50 minutes of discussion. So they have to consider the timing to stop their discussion and begin to write the draft presentation materials on the white paper, and that's another important task for each group.

Now, regarding their preparation, let me show you some snapshots to show you where they are in their cruises of discussion. Those photographs are shown in a manner of slide show. Almost all the students assembled only yesterday in one place. Last night, till 22:00 at night, they worked hard on their discussion. They had very active discussion to refine their plans and proposals. So all of those photos eloquently show how hardworking they had been. So I hope you will continue to enjoy those photos, and at the right timing, I would like to tell you what they are discussing later.

So as you can see, they are in the midst of heated discussion at each table, and some groups have begun writing drafts on the white paper, and some had begun to summarize their discussion on a piece of sheet.

We are already into the second half of the 50 minutes, so I suppose almost all the groups began to summarize their discussion on the white paper. Let me see what kind of discussion they are having now, starting with Group A. On their whiteboard, they have

those words of summary. One is, “activities by the youth, for the youth.” And next they say, “A forum for peace.” That seems the expression I often hear from young people, that is, from college-age students. They do have interest in peace or war issues. It’s just that they feel embarrassed to discuss peace or war and are embarrassed to tell their friends their interest in such issues. They shy away from doing so because friends around them may think that they are too serious and do not see them as an amusing person. So, we should create a place where young people can seriously discuss peace and war. It also says, “Kichijoji is the town of animation films.” It seems that they started with the characteristics of a specific city. Each city or local community have certain features and strengths, and they could utilize such characteristics to make people understand that peace issues are not something distant from their daily life, but is an issue which is really a part of their daily life. In order to do so, they would like to link animation film, or other things young people are usually interested in, with issues of peace or war. Another is a town meeting. As you know in Nagasaki, Mayor Taue organizes what is called a “champon meeting,” a town meeting where young people can be engaged in discussion. For young people, college-age students, usually they don’t have an occasion to discuss with mayors in person. Therefore, I believe this is a very good opportunity for the representatives of local authorities to have exchanges or dine together with students. It will be nice if you could create such opportunities. And also, young people can join free of charge in those events because young people do not have much money to spend. It will be nice if they can come up with events where young people are able to join without spending too much money. So much for the points of the discussion which took place in some of the groups.

Next, Group B. About the activities of Group B, one thing we should take note is, out of the six local authorities, France is the only nuclear-weapon nation. Among all the nuclear-weapon nations, local authorities or cities are different, and there are so many cities in France who are not supporting the nuclear weapons. They have different policy in local authorities. They are the powers to seek for peace. How can young people give the yell or support to those local authorities, is being discussed. Now, what are the proposals of Group B? Let’s see. This is Group B. I don’t think I see everything here. You can see a wording which says “peace movie” with French and Japanese national flags. We have to wait for the final presentation to come, but “international peace movie

contest” is the words I see. I believe this is a proposal to discuss a peace movie. And “France is a nuclear-weapon nation,” it says. What are the proposals they are able to make under such circumstances?

Let’s move on to the next group. Group F. On the whiteboard says, “Biograd as a symbol of peace.” This is what I see, and starting from step 1 to step 4, by taking these steps, how can we spread activities of peace? As step 1, it says “prior learning.” What are the learning processes they have to go through for the preparation? And step 2 is “prepare events.” And step 3 is “carrying out the events,” and step 4, it says “postcard.” Be it the short term, middle term or longer term, it’s not that it’s better to have the big event for only one time. Probably it will be very good if they can come up with a long-lasting movement which can start from one event. That seems to be one of the objectives of the students. For students, after leaving their schools, graduating from high schools and going to universities, and university students graduating from universities, it might be difficult for them to continue with their activities, but long-lasting activities are something we are emphasizing on this plan.

Now, on the stage, it seems that there are so many people gathered here, especially high school students, on the stage. It seems that they are very much interested in what’s going on in each group’s discussion. On the stage, there are a lot of high school students who have come down from the second floor because we can accommodate only the very limited number of the students. Therefore, to the students on the stage, may I ask you to come down and change with the students waiting in the queue to come up to the stage? I have one request. We only have a little longer than 10 minutes for the group work. This is the last-minute work you can do. So for the observers, please do not prevent the students in the group from working on their project. Please do not speak to the students working on the presentation unnecessarily. So, for the students and observers, would you like to change with the people waiting for coming up to the stage? Can you shuffle and change with the people who are waiting to come up to the stage? This is a request to the students who are on the stage. Once you are done with your work, please change with the students who are still waiting on the first floor to come up to the stage.

To the staff in Nagasaki City Hall, would you please bring additional white papers for them to write down? To the students working on the project, we do have more papers to come, so please use those papers.

Now Group E, Fongo-Tongo discussion. It says “web page” in pink color. At this time, on the web page, SNS usages can be also planned. I believe there were several such requests, but what’s important here is you cannot just end with the use of SNS. In what way, by whom, are we going to make the best use of SNS is something I would like the students to work on. We have also included those wishes in the plan. Not just creating a website, but what are their plans which should be incorporated in the website? Let’s wait for the presentation by Group E.

Now to the group members, you only have three minutes to go. It seems that you are in a rush. You only have three minutes. To the observers and the audience, they only have three minutes to go. We would like to smoothly move on to the presentation, immediately after the end of the group work. The students are in rush, so for the observers, may I kindly ask you to come down from the stage? Each group are working to get ready for their presentation. They only have less than three minutes. They have taken three weeks for the preparation. I wonder where they end up with at the preparatory works and what they have done before this group work. I wonder how the suggestions and recommendations will be worked by the heads of local authorities. Based on those activities, I believe there is a new collaboration between young people and local authorities. At the risk of repeating myself, it is about time to move on to the presentation. May I kindly ask you to come down from the stage? Staff members, can you make the official announcement in English also?

I wonder whether there are groups finished with the preparation. It seems they need a little more time. If you think you can go ahead and make the presentation, first come, first served. Looks like four or five people are engaged in writing down the final wording. The group who is ready to go, please raise your hand. Students who are ready to make the presentation, please come. Time’s up! You only have one or two minutes. You have to finish your last-minute work and be ready for the presentation. Each group is given five minutes, which is very short to give the outcome of the discussion. Five

minutes. It's impossible for you to cover everything you have discussed. You can just give the essential parts of the discussion.

To the mayors of local authorities, the content of the preparation work by the students is not specifically linked with the local authority at the table who is in charge of giving recommendations or suggestions. But I'm pretty sure that the proposals which will be given by the youths are going to be utilized for your day-to-day activities. After listening to the presentations, if you wish to adopt those activities in your local authorities, please come to those students and have a talk with them. It is not restricted to the six local authorities represented here at the head table. The students are working for peace making, so please give them a warm support and words.

I'm trying to buy sometime, and it is now time to start the presentation. Are you all done? Let's start from the one that has already finished in time. Who goes first? Who wants to go first? Group B, Group A, Group F, and the rest groups are requested to finish your preparation. So, you are requested to be seated and listen to the presentation. The first presentation will be by Group B. You only have five minutes for presentation. In the very limited time given to you, please comply with the time. Basically, the presentations will be given in Japanese. Simultaneous interpretation is available.

This is Group B. You need to introduce the city you worked with. Is everybody on the floor ready? This is the start of the presentation, and Group B, you have five minutes.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 1: Group B

Good afternoon. Group B worked with the City of Vitry-sur-Seine. I am not the leader, but I was the facilitator. We have two proposals to share with you. I hope you are going to enjoy, and also start working with us. First is the short-term idea, which Kawase is going to present.

The first plan is titled "La paix d'ici" or "Peace from here." In this short-term project, we aim on to building bases for our activities. The first objective is to build a base in Vitry, and the second is to build a kind of a gateway to peace. This is a proposal we gave to the city of Vitry, but I think this idea can be applied to all the cities in the world.

This base can be given in a form of bulk container, so the physical spaces are secured. And then in that space, we plan to hold workshops, and this is going to be a one-day workshop. First, we have one hour of workshop, have lunch together, and then go see a movie together and share our impressions about the movie. After that, we will create an art to express our own feelings. Those paintings will be created by the participants and will stay in that activity base, instead of bringing them home and forgetting about it. There should be accumulated paintings. And that will be the achievement of this short-term plan. This is a one-day program. It's quite easy to participate if it's a one-day program. In the city of Vitry, they are going to have a physical center to give people opportunity to think about peace. The ultimate goal for this project is to make that physical space, even though it may be prefabricated by a simple building, which will give opportunity for people in the city to think about peace together.

Next is the mid-term/long-term plan. We are confident of this proposal. We propose on hosting an international peace movie competition. This an international movie competition, and Vitry will be the center place of this film competition. This will be borderless, and we can share ideas about peace. The movies will be produced by high school students or university students in Japan and in Vitry. It's going to be a 30 second short movie, and they will be distributed via Facebook or Twitter to the worldwide audience. And then, there will be a voting by social media. Then there will be an awarding ceremony. So, the international peace movie competition can help us in promoting peace education.

As well as peace education, we first focused on what's happened in the past. For example, what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the reality of A-bombings. The visit to museums or listening to the testimonies of the A-bomb survivors are the kinds of activities. As for the current issue, in today's world, the issue of nuclear weapons continues. So, the number of nuclear warheads, yields and power of the nuclear weapons, efforts toward disarmament, nuclear abolition and the Ban Treaty. We are going to have a seminar to share with participants about the basic facts. And toward the future, peace movie will be created by a group thinking about what they can express in the movie through their discussion. Thinking about what they can express about peace, we need to build successors. Vitry has been quite active on the issue of peace, but

they say that peace education is something en route, so I think what happened in Hiroshima and Nagasaki should be conveyed to the people in Vitry. So, by providing a training program for those who can tell their stories, we can convey the message of peace to people abroad.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Next is Group A.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 2: Group A

What can we do to make a change? First, we thought about creating a space where young people can gather, and think and talk about peace in a very casual, friendly manner. The space should also be a great opportunity for international exchange and mutual exchange. When we think of peace, it should be future oriented. It's not only thinking about the past, but we are thinking about the future, a peaceful future. We think this kind of place is really useful and important.

So, what can we do to make it happen? Here are some of the more specific ideas how we can actually plan to create such a space. First, we will look for young people who have some relationship with Musashino City through public recruitment. And there are quite a few universities and colleges in this area. Therefore, students would be the most probable targets. And these university students, quite a few of them are international students. For example, ideas should be incorporated and linked with various measures implemented by the city. The city already has some sort of a committee, where the people gather and exchange opinions and views about what they can do to make the community a better place to live. And one set of perspective incorporated in this is that utilization of animation, or Japanese "anime" related. Taking up this idea, we can form some sort of a group where we can actually promote peace through art. And we want to get the largest possible participation of young people. Therefore, we should pay full respect to the ideas young people offer. Again, in relation with Musashino Art University, and young people who have gathered for the initiative can work together with those art students to make creative artworks related to peace. So in all of these initiatives, young people are the main actors, and to have a place and space where these people can gather is idealistic. So, at the moment, Musashino City already has quite a

bit of resources of all kinds, and that should be well incorporated with the resources of the young people. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Group A. Now, let's move on to Group F. When you begin, would you please indicate with whom you were working with? Are you ready? Group F. please.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 3: Group F

We are in charge of Biograd na Moru of Croatia. It's surrounded by sea and it's a tourist spot. This is the feature of the city, and as you can see in this picture, it is a beautiful place in the coastal area, surrounded with boats. This feature should be focused and create a day or time which symbolize peace for the event, praying for peace. We will give you the details now.

Biograd na Moru of Croatia should be created as the place for symbol of peace. Step 1 is the preparation. Step 2 is the decoration of the town. Step 3 is carrying out the events. Step 4 is sending postcards to other towns. Let's go one by one. In step 1, high school students or junior high school students can be engaged in the events. Peace education was in our mind before we came here. But in Biograd na Moru, they are already carrying out such education, so they have already taken Step 1. Step 2 is to create the town as the symbol of peace. We are going to decorate the town to symbolize that. Decorating the town with chalk arts or balloons. On the balloons, we are going to put peace mark or peace symbol like this. Step 3 is to carry out the events. Hold exhibitions including testimonies of hibakusha, but they are holding such events already, so continuity of such events is the step 3. Secondly, a "Lantern Day" to pray for peace. This is the lighting of lantern for peace, and Biograd should be embraced with those lanterns praying for peace. Thirdly, because this is a very famous place by the sea, by using the lights of the yachts or the boats, we are going to surround this area with lights. This seems to be a very good candidate place. There are a lot of boats more here so, probably this seems to be the better place. This symbol mark originally had blue hearts, and there was a bee in the center. We arranged this to make a symbol for peace. Why is it blue? Biograd is very famous for its beautiful sea. Through those series of events, we

would like to make a day to think about peace, and to make Biograd na Moru the “symbol of peace.”

The next step going from this is that we want to have a picture taken of this heart made from the symbol of ocean, by using, for example, drone overhead, and using that image make postcards. These postcards, would have the image as well as this message over here, “Small cities make small steps, but together, can make a big difference. Eliminate nuclear weapons.” So, we will send out these postcards to other cities to spread the message of peace as well asking them to join Mayors for Peace program. That way we can not only continue with this program in Biograd, but also try to continue this in other cities and continue to spread this message.

This plan consists of various events, but that has to be done by the initiative of young people. This is the obligation of young people who is the driving force for the future. Be it Nagasaki or Biograd na Moru, probably one idea is to create a youth group or youth association jointly. One proposal we have is, to members of Mayors for Peace, would you like to create such young people’s association to have the connection? This is an idea from the ban treaty, which was just adopted, and was realized because of the initiatives and appeals by hibakusha and citizens of the A-bomb cities. Such solidarity and cooperation, among citizens groups will need to be spread among local authorities. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Group F. Next, Group E, Fongo-Tongo, please.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 4: Group E

I would like to make a presentation about Fongo-Tongo. First of all, when we first learned about Fongo-Tongo, it was a surprise. First, it’s a city in Cameroon, and because we didn’t know anything about the city or the country, we tried to search it through websites. We started without knowing much about the city. So one suggestion is that we would want it to make a web page focusing on photos. Young people loves to take photos, and we would like to build a platform for photos, that is common between Nagasaki City and Fongo-Tongo. And then we can collect many photos as possible.

The second one is the short-term exchange program. It's a two to three weeks exchange program between young people of Fongo-Tongo and Nagasaki. This is based on the peace education. For example, young people of Nagasaki go to Fongo-Tongo for the peace caravan. By going to Fongo-Tongo, they can learn about history and environment about the city. On the other hand, when students from Fongo-Tongo come to Nagasaki, they get to learn and meet people who have experienced A-bomb, and learn their firsthand experience. They can do a homestay, and they can learn about the culture.

The third one is a new language course we put in. It is kind of connected to the second one, so if more students become interested in Japan, for example, Fongo-Tongo has a university, and we thought maybe they should offer a Japanese course. Not only establishing a Japanese course, but also, as a part of the education in Nagasaki University, we can establish some course that introduces culture and language of Fongo-Tongo. And of course this is also related, and another one is translating the testimonies of the A-bomb survivors. In order to translate, you really have to understand how they felt, so I think this itself is peace education.

There is one minute left, and this is the last one. If we presented all the activities, it may be difficult to get feedback, so in order to offer an opportunity to learn about peace education, this is stimulated by the stepping stone placed in Germany. In one part of the street, some section is removed and a golden colored footprint is inlaid. When they find the golden footprint, people will stop. The footprint will have information about a year and also a name of a city, but they don't know what it means. By using the iPhone AR app, they can get information about the wars or conflicts, for example, "1945 August 9, Nagasaki." You can get the audio, photo, and written information about the atomic bombing, which will provide an opportunity to know about the history of wars of each cities.

The purpose of doing this is that our one step forward leads to the establishment of peace. And it is very important for each person to deepen their understanding of peace, and we would like to spread that to other people. That is all. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now, Group D, please get ready.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 5: Group D

Thank you very much. In our Group D, “Semana de la juventud por la paz 2017”, is an event for this year, and I would like to tell you what kind of events are going to be held or should be held. On a short-term basis, we considered to have a Day of Peace, but as a matter of fact, in Mexico they have a Peace Week, so we decided to look for long-term and mid-term plans. This event is going to run for six days in November this year, and the purpose of this event is to feel the value of peace and consider a pathway for a better future. The venue is Zócalo Square in Mexico City. Zócalo Square is indeed a very important place for Mexicans, and it’s an extremely vast square, one of the largest squares in the world. The contents are, international issues, stories told by hibakusha, and we would like to use videos and documentary films to make it easy for people to understand. Mexico suffered invasion by the Spanish. They have gone through difficult history, and we invite experts to speak about this history, and invite hibakusha to tell their experience. And also, Syrian refugees is also an issue, which should be discussed in the event. In Mexico, there are hibakusha who live in Mexico, so we would like to invite them to speak of their experiences on that occasion.

The second one is the use of animation films and manga related to love, human rights, war and peace, and selling those copies of such books, and we also hope that we are able to screen those animation films. And a workshop for children and parents. Producing some goods for them to play together, for example, *Shimbun janken* game goods, could be done in a way of combining Mexican and Japanese culture, and let the Mexican parents and children make paper cranes. In Mexico City, domestic violence seems to be a big issue. Some parents are being abusive of their children. Family is the smallest unit of society, and that should be the starting point for building peace, and that’s what we consider extremely important.

Next is a production of an animation and picture books appealing the value of peace. Also, “A foreign country you discovered” could be used as a theme for a video-making contest, and the grand prize winner should be given opportunity to go to that country for

a cross-cultural experience. By so doing, people at large are able to expand their understanding of different cultures, and standing on a wider perspective that may be able to consider peace. Mexico has a lot of colorful and cute goods for daily life, so we would like to use these goods ornamented with Mexican colors for sale. And opportunity for dialogue between citizens and the mayor, that was our plan, but the mayor is a very open-minded person, so I hope that he will just continue to keep this practice. And a public open competition for a logo, but I heard that they already have a logo, so maybe they can produce another one, a cute logo mark. A Spanish song concerning peace could be composed.

In November, the event I mentioned earlier, it's a very big festival with musical concert inviting many musicians, like Fuji Rock Festival in Japan. Additional things may be difficult for this year, but maybe for the next year. Also PR using various media, and from November 6 to 12, this big event is going to take place in Mexico, so I encourage you to visit Mexico during that time. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much Group D. So the last one is Group C. So, last but not least, Group C is to be the last presenter of this session. If you are ready, please start the presentation.

Presentation of Activities for Peace 6: Group C

Good afternoon, we are from Group C. Group C will make a proposal to Ypres in Belgium. Ypres City is the first city which suffered an attack by chemical weapons of mass destruction. Nagasaki is the city which suffered from an atomic bombing, and therefore, we tried to combine the characteristics of these two cities.

So, we have a short-term proposal as well as a long-term proposal. Short-term proposal is a peace festival, and long-term proposal is a peace speech contest. I'm going to explain about the exchange program. This is rather complicated, so please focus on it. There are two parts, and one of them is a speech contest. After the contest, three winners of the contest will be given the right to be on an exchange program. The speech contest, as has been mentioned, Ypres City is the first city that was attacked with chemical weapons of mass destruction, and therefore university students of Ypres will do the

hearings of the survivors of the wars. Also the students of Nagasaki will do the hearing of hibakusha. Making the best use of these hearings, they will come up with the script for the speech contest. They will learn from the survivors, and will come up with their own thoughts and disseminate their thoughts to other people. So, students in Ypres will come to Nagasaki on August 9, or around that time, and Nagasaki students will go to Ypres on November 11, which is the date that the chemical weapons were first used on the City of Ypres. In the receiving cities, the students will make a textbook based on their history and give a lecture to the counterpart university students. When they come back to their own countries, then they will disseminate their experiences to other people widely.

Now I'd like to explain what happens after you are on the exchange program. There will be three students from both cities, each would be on the exchange program, and then they bring back their textbooks that the receiving city's students made, and by using these textbooks, they are going to give lectures or presentations in their own cities. They will have to present what they learned through this exchange program. Maybe press conference can be also used, as well as website and school magazines are other channels for disseminating these information. Not only to school classmates, but also widely to the citizens of the city, disseminate the information and their experiences.

Now I'm going to talk about the short-term proposal, which is a peace festival. In Ypres City, in a three-year cycle, they have various festivals. One of them is a peace festival that is to be held once in every three years. We thought we can bring in some elements that can attract young people, together with the peace festival and Ypres.

As just has been mentioned, there will be three winners of the speech contest. And we will display art pieces, one of them is the Fat Man created using PET bottles or other waste, and we will display this art at the festival. The second one is, by using poppy flowers, we will create some object to decorate around the festival venue. Poppy flowers are the symbol of Ypres City.

I'm going to explain about the short movie. To be frank with you, as we talked with the representative of Ypres, this is the one that we really need to think over. The content is

that, both Ypres and Nagasaki, cats are very famous. Therefore, we created a cat as a character on the short movie so that they will see various tragic histories through the eyes of a cat. But the representative of Ypres said that the important thing is to talk what happened to the people, rather than animals. Therefore, rather than using a cat, we tried to come up with something that can communicate directly to the hearts of the people.

Now I'm going to give this a wrap up. Through the discussion with the representative from Ypres, there are some plans that cannot be realized such as the short movie. However, we had very heated discussions and members of the team is different in terms of age, but we could deepen our discussion and come up with this summary. Ypres suffered from chemical weapons and Nagasaki suffered from atomic bombing, so as cities that suffered from wars, we would like to come up with some kind of a plan that we can communicate and exchange between these cities and contribute to peace in the world. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. These were the presentations by each group. This is a good opportunity. Although we don't have much time, I think we can have only one question from the participants. If there is a question, I think we have time for one question, but we would like to use this precious opportunity, there are many citizens and mayors from other Japanese cities or the mayors from abroad. We have time to receive one question. If not, we would like to conclude the session.

Students and young people could share with you only a part of the ideas they have prepared, and they were given a very short period of time for the presentation. Tomorrow, we are going to exhibit the ideas written on those papers so that you can have more time to go through them. The ideas and projects presented here need support from mayors and citizens in various cities for the realization, so if any one of you is interested in some of these ideas, please contact these young people. I think this was a very challenging session for Mayors for Peace, young people and mayors collaborated, and we had a wonderful reaction among people. Here we have the mayor of Nagasaki. I don't know whether the mayor of Nagasaki feels like doing it again, or not so much, but creating something new is a source of joy. Activity toward peace is a very serious issue,

but young people are filled with energy in creating something new. Let us share this joy of creating something new. I hope that many cities will agree with me. Thank you very much. Please give a big hand to the youths and representatives of the cities. Those on the stage, could you please stand and say thank you, “*arigato*,” to the participants?

Youths

Arigato-gozaimasu.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Could you stay on the stage? So this concludes session III. Thank you very much for your kind cooperation. Next session is going to start at 16:30 as is planned. I would like to thank you for your kind support to me and let us continue to support these young people. Thank you.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session IV

Roles of NGOs, Citizens' Groups and A-bomb Survivors'
Groups, etc.

August 10 (Thu), 2017 9:30-11:00
Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Moderator:

Masao Tomonaga

Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens'
Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Japan

Introduction of Peace Activities:

Thomas Hermann

Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Nam-jin Kim

Director of the Peace and International Affairs Division,
Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Korea

Teruko Yokoyama

Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, Japan

Summary:

Hikomichi Umebayashi

Special Advisor, Peace Depot Inc., Japan

MC

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for your patience. Now Session IV begins. I would like to ask Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons to serve as a moderator.

Moderator: Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Japan

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Now I call upon the opening of Session IV. My name is Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

Now the theme of this particular session is "Roles of NGOs, Citizens' Groups and A-bombs Survivors' Groups, etc." In the beginning, we will have the presentation by "50 Cities – 50 Traces" International Art Project 2018-2020, Germany. That will be followed by the presentation by Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, and then the presentation by the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council. So we will have three presentations. Afterwards, all the presentations will have time for interaction with the audience. After Jeju Special Self-Governing Province's presentation, unfortunately, the speaker has to leave to catch his plane. So, for Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, we will receive questions and comments from the floor right after his talk. In closing this session, Mr. Hiromichi Umebayashi, sitting next me, Special Advisor of Peace Depot Inc., is going to make a summary. And I, as a moderator, will make a moderator's summary of the session. Now, we shall begin. The first is "50 Cities – 50 Traces" International Art Project 2018–2020, the speaker is Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover. Then, he will be followed by Dr. Menges. So there will be two speakers for the first presentation. Mr. Hermann, please.

Introduction to Peace Activities 1: "50 Cities – 50 Traces" International Art Project 2018–2020

Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, distinguished guests and friends. There is a

popular German saying that goes, “There are three things men should do in life; plant a tree, build a house, and father a child.” This proverb is also a permanent reminder of the desire to make stand against the transience of life by living. You hand something that endures, something visible. What I’m talking about is legacy traces that outlive our own existence, and provide the lasting reminder that we were once here. The need to be remembered and not forgotten is a strong emotional resonance for many people. And the desire to leave a legacy whatever form it might take, for subsequent generations, give meaning to their own lives.

Incidentally, the idea of planting a tree goes back to a much older saying by the German Protestant reformer Martin Luther, whose reformation of the church 500 years ago, we are commemorating this year throughout Germany. He said, “If I knew the world was to end tomorrow, I would still plant an apple tree today.” And this taught takes the idea of the first saying further. The apple tree, the symbol of hope, confidence, and future. That is what Mayors for Peace and the supporters have taken to heart.

The art exhibition entitled “50 Cities – 50 Traces” also explores the issue of legacies people leave on this earth. It chiefly spotlights the traces that have been left in our cities. Traces about aesthetic images and representations from 50 mayors for peace cities have been created. They show, for example, the simple tire mark on asphalt can be turned into an astonishing work of art. And yet, the exhibition is also warning that this world will be all gone if all nuclear weapons are used. The beauty of our legacies will be wiped out, lost forever. This is why it is so important for us, and above all, Hannover, the Lead City, that this exhibition highlights the mission of Mayors for Peace to create a world free of nuclear weapons. There are still much to do as we seek to achieve our goal, and since we can only do this as a shared effort, involving many people, we want this exhibition which will be shown in more than 20 cities in Germany and Europe including Hannover, Munich, Berlin, Manchester, Potsdam and Ypres, to make people curious about our cause. We are convinced that an exhibition visibly under the banner of Mayors for Peace, will effectively communicate our mission to a wide audience. This is why we would like to invite you to be among this cities to host this exhibition. Now I’m delighted to hand over to Dr. Menges who will now outline further details on the content of the exhibition, the artists involved and infrastructure needed for this project

to become reality. Thank you very much.

Dr. Raimund Menges

Thank you very much, Mr. Hermann, for your introduction. I'm glad to have the opportunity to speak to you about "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project: a world without nuclear weapons. Let me start with a word from Eric Hobsbawm who was a quite famous great British historian. Right before he died in 2012, he said, in essence, he spoke about traceless oblivion in an interview. He said that the modern society essentially operates without a sense of the past. He said, "If you forget what happened in the past you, simply have to repeat the same mistakes over and over again." I think it is the mission of Mayors for Peace to help the world, avoid making the same mistakes. Again, I think I'm really scared of reading the recent news. How can we make this issue more aware to the public?

With the "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project, we want to contribute to this Mayors for Peace mission. We want to do this with an art project because we believe that art can build bridges and create encounters. Encounters connect people. This is what we do here. It can create trust and it can create understanding and friendship. I think this is the key. And it was, I think, the word over the last couple of days, the key element to create friendship as a basis for peace. Such encounters need catalysts and stimuli. We need to do something to really create this encounter and just as Mayors for Peace network, the worldwide network, also art can create such encounters, across borders, and even without words.

With this project, we want to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Non-Proliferation Treaty which was signed in 1968. We want to support the Mayors for Peace mission for a nuclear-free world, and we want to contribute to disarmament education. We want to connect people and to create this trust and understanding we need as a basis for our peace work.

The artistic concept behind this "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project is to juxtapose individual traces from 50 Mayors for Peace cities. These traces, will highlight the diversity and beauty of those cities and of the daily life taking place therein. The

exhibition is conceived as an invitation to respect and to preserve the world's visible remainders, which are the bearers of memory. It is an appeal against the destruction of our cities, against the deployment of nuclear weapons, supporting the idea behind the Mayors for Peace movement that "cities are not targets."

The exhibition will travel to Mayors for Peace cities who are interested in this project, starting from 2018 through 2020, which marks, again, the 50th anniversary of the ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. If your cities wish to participate in this global project, please contact us. You will find the contact details on the flyers that were distributed. And also, this presentation we are showing here can be downloaded from the website of the "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project.

Since time immemorial, cities and streets have always been the lifelines of every society. They are essential arena of life. They are drenched in memories. They connect people, places, countries, cultures-even though we had to fly here, I mean there is no road to Japan, but nevertheless, they connect people. They are the settings for life itself, for encounters, for accidents, for dramas, for stories, this is our life. Streets and places, they change, erode, damaged, repaired, and are marked by traces. And these traces reveal something about those who left them, telling stories, or conjuring images of the places where they are found.

Traces are the photographic subject of the Stuttgart based artist Klaudia Dietewich. She is interested in the aesthetics of daily life relicts, which in one way or the other reflect the condition of our world. Her found objects are fragments and pieces that are non-representational, but that can call to mind memories, associations, and narratives. As a distillation of life lived, the works raise the questions of what remains of us and of the world as we know it.

The project office in Stuttgart in cooperation with Hannover City is responsible for the technical implementation of the project. Once you decide you want to execute that, our communication languages are German, English, and we are glad to have a Japanese lady in our team, so we can communicate in Japanese. Also the project office's main responsibilities are to produce the artwork, to collect mayoral statements, which are part

of the exhibition art, so we invite every mayor of the Mayors for Peace to contribute to this statement. As you have seen, it as an example in the beginning when deputy mayor Hermann talked, we'll produce the video of all the statements. You can see a short excerpt of that at our booth over there. And we will maintain a project website.

A Mayors for Peace city that agrees to host the exhibition shall provide the exhibition space, shall invite collateral events and actions if wished, should invite the public and the press, organize an opening reception, and at the end, dismantle the exhibition and repack the 50 traces to transport, and bear the shipping and traveling fees. Depending on the nature of the collateral events and actions that each city wants to invite, the respective necessary provisions shall be made.

There is always a question about the wall space required, but this really depends on the pattern you want to show or the different works, so it can be right between 10 and 35 meters. It's really depending on how it's displayed. On the left side, you see the exhibition as it was in Stuttgart just a month ago, and on the right side, you'll see an alternative pattern that can be shown if there is not enough wall space.

The "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project wants to contribute to global disarmament and peace education. This is also an important part of what we are doing here. And actions during the time of the exhibition, according to what you want to organize, may include providing information on the initiation and the history of the NPT and actual activities on nuclear disarmament, maybe posters or by rollups which we did in Stuttgart. Then, of course, it could be telling stories of survivors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing, we have had people let in our booth where offering a video sessions, video materials, video sessions that you hear survivors talking. Involving local people, schools and pupils may be by participating actions, Hannover, for example, created a really great example. We developed a questionnaire for younger and older school kids. And also a working material for teachers who want to involve their kids in a quite suitable—and I think child-friendly—way. This is a fantastic work that is available in English, of course, and really some invitation for school classes to participate in this environment.

Now, let me show you a short two-minute video, which was taken at the start of the

kickoff exhibition we did in July in Stuttgart.

(Video)

Thank you very much. Wolfgang Stuckbaum produced this video. This is very great that we have it and we could show it here.

For closing, the project office in cooperation of Hannover City developed a couple of more suggestions for collateral actions that we offer in a kind of an action box, and that could be included in the exhibition.

That was, in short, what we wanted to present to you. Thank you very much for listening, and again, our warmest invitation to participate in this project. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Dr. Menges and Mr. Hermann. This project was clearly presented to us. You need to have a gathering of the people in order to start any kind of conversation, and the conversation and gathering will start something new. And you repeated that the keyword “trace” again and again. It can be legacies from cities. Thank you very much for your presentation.

Now we move on to Mr. Nam-jin Kim, Director of the Peace and International Affairs Division, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province. As I mentioned, Mr. Kim has to leave here at around 10:20, so if you have any questions or comments to him, please direct your questions or comments to him after his talk is over.

Introduction to Peace Activities 2: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province

Mr. Nam-jin Kim, Director of the Peace and International Affairs Division, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Korea

Good morning, my name is Nam-jin Kim, Director of the Peace and International Affairs Division, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, Republic of Korea. It is my great pleasure to present what the “Island of World Peace” of Jeju has done so far for

peace at this conference.

It has been twelve years since Jeju was designated by the Korean government as Island of World Peace, on January 17, 2005. Here is the background for that designation, followed by an outline of the projects Jeju has put forward for world peace. First of all, Jeju is at the geographical confluence among the principal Northeast Asian nations, serving as a gateway in and out of the region. Amid the turmoil of the Cold War and the division of the nation after the Korean War, Jeju underwent the worst of tragedies, the Jeju April 3rd Incident, which broke out in 1948 and lasted eight years until 1956, killing around 30,000 innocent civilians. Jeju citizens, however, have transformed the painful memories into a spirit of reconciliation and living together. Even when inter-Korean relations showed no improvement after the division in 1945, Jeju, together with various civic groups, has led the efforts to bring about reconciliation between the South and the North, by leading such various initiatives as sending mandarin oranges to North Korean people and trips by Jeju citizens to North Korea since 1999.

A series of summit meetings have been held in Jeju. The first was the summit meeting between the Soviet Union and South Korea in 1991, which is thought to have ended the era of the Cold War. The US-South Korea summit in 1996, and the summits between South Korea and Japan in 1996 and 2004. A summit meeting between the two Koreas was held in 2000, followed by several inter-Korean ministerial talks. To celebrate the first anniversary of the South-North summit meeting, the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity was launched in 2001, helping Jeju to become known as a place to discuss Northeast Asian peace issues.

This ultimately led to the designation of Jeju as Island of World Peace in January 2005, reflecting the Jeju people's aspiration for peace.

Jeju has made a lot of efforts for peace since its designation as Island of World Peace. As I mentioned, the Jeju Peace Forum has positioned itself as a venue of dialogue for global peace and cooperation with the attendance of former and current high-level leaders, intellectuals and journalists. The forum has continued to grow, beginning with some 350 people from nine countries in the first forum to about 6,000 people from 80 countries around the globe in 2017 this year. In particular, since 2016, non-proliferation

of nuclear weapons and disarmament in the Asia-Pacific regions, including in North Korea, has been on the main agenda for the forum. This year's forum had a session about the roles of cities for world peace, with the governor of Jeju, the chairperson of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, and the chairperson of the Pacific Rim Park participating. During the session, the governor of Jeju received a certificate confirming its membership of Mayors for Peace.

Next, the Jeju Peace Research Institute, founded in 2006, has performed various works of research and exchange activities for the establishment and dissemination of peace on the Korean Peninsula and in the East Asian region. It also organizes the Jeju Peace Forum. This picture is the Jeju Peace Center. Opening in 2006, the Jeju Peace Center has exhibitions for education purposes on display including wax sculptures of prominent global figures for their life-long contribution to human rights and peace around the world. Established in 2010, the UNITAR Jeju International Training Center has provided a wide range of training programs to help develop human resource capabilities, especially regarding issues that are major concern in the Asia-Pacific region, such as human rights, environment, and climate change. For future generations to better understand different cultures and raise awareness on a better future for the Earth, Jeju hosts the Jeju International Youth Forum with 300 students from 21 cities in seven countries every year.

Pacific Rim Park has been built, led by the Pacific Rim Park Foundation, a San Diego-based private foundation, with the voluntary participation of cities, universities, and experts around the globe, contributing to the spread of peace through arts and cultural activities. This is the first Pacific Rim Park of Vladivostok, Russia, and San Diego, USA, Yantai, China, Tijuana, Mexico, Palawan, Philippines, Jeju, South Korea, and Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The Pacific Rim Summit, launched during the 2012 Jeju Forum, and its third meeting is scheduled to be held in Jeju next year. Taking this opportunity, I would like to say that we look forward to Nagasaki City's joining the project as well as participating in the third meeting to be held in Jeju next year. This is our ODA project for peace. To broaden awareness of peace for Jeju people, we provide support for peace education for about 2,000 Jeju residents every year.

And now, I would like to share with you our exchange and cooperation plan between South and North Korea for a denuclearized Korean Peninsula. We call it the “5+1 Collaboration Project” These are just plans so far, but I believe this project will come true someday. First, by resuming the delivery of mandarin oranges that was suspended in 2012, we want to revitalize exchanges with the North at a civic level. Second, a cruise route between Jeju and North Korea will be established for the creation of a “peace belt” in Northeast Asia. And third, joint efforts by the two Koreas for conserving the ecosystems on Mt. Halla in Jeju and Mt. Baekdu in North Korea will make possible exchanges of knowledge and know-how on environment conservation. Fourth, a mutual trip to both Jeju and North Korea, which was mentioned during the South-North summit meeting in 2000, will help gain momentum for exchanges at a non-government level. And fifth, by inviting North Koreans to the Jeju Forum, Jeju can help build a consensus for peace and set the stage for further discussions on cooperation for peace, playing a leading role in inter-Korean reconciliation. And plus one. Jeju has also been pushing forward its main policy on peace energy. It means that the whole process from energy generation to its consumption is carried out in peaceful ways. A model of a Jeju-style energy-independent town is under preparation to be applied to North Korean villages to help resolve energy issues in the North.

Lastly, for the purpose of further dissemination of peace, Jeju plans to form a city forum for peace, so that cities that suffered painful history can attend from home and abroad. We will make every effort to facilitate activities of the Pacific Rim Parks, and work together with other cities to encourage more students to participate in the Jeju International Youth Forum.

Jeju, a leader in the concept of inter-Korean reconciliation and cooperation, will successfully fulfill its duties as “Island of World Peace.” We will continue to support for the peace-related activities led by civic organizations, creating more opportunities for Jeju citizens to participate, and strengthen the capacity as Island of World Peace to contribute to world peace. I hope your continued interest in our efforts for peace. Thank you for listening.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Mr. Kim. Would you wait at the podium for a few seconds? As I mentioned earlier, we would like to open the floor for questions or comments to Mr. Kim's presentation. Any questions or comments? Jeju, and his presentation was really suitable to tell us the role of cities. Would you please state your name and your affiliation, where you are from?

Question/Comment from Floor 1:

Mr. Miyata, Unzen, Japan

My name is Miyata, I come from Unzen, I'm just a citizen and a hibakusha exposed to the atomic bombing when I was 5 years old. In your speech today, you mentioned the peace for Northeast Asia and you have activities and proposals. RECNA in Nagasaki University has already made such proposals at the United Nations. Is there any collaboration between Jeju and RECNA, a research center in Nagasaki University?

Moderator

Mr. Kim, did you get the question? Do you have any collaboration between your city, Jeju and Nagasaki University? You are both dedicated to Northeast Asia.

Mr. Nam-jin Kim

Jeju Island has active interactions with Japanese people. With respect to nuclear issues, Hiroshima and Nagasaki have been promoting Mayors for Peace conference and this is the first time that we participated in this conference. We would like to continue to have this network and interactions with other local authorities and would like to further enhance cooperative relationships. Now, in Jeju Island, as I mentioned in my speech, we have a peace research institute, and we would like to consider possible collaboration with the peace research institute in Nagasaki.

Moderator

Is there anyone from RECNA of Nagasaki University? It seems that there is no direct collaboration between the two organizations at the moment. So, Mr. Suzuki of RECNA, there is no direct collaboration between the two institutes.

Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director of Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition

(RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

On an individual level, some members have been taking part in Jeju Forum, but not organizational level.

Moderator

Did that answer your question? Would you please use the microphone?

Mr. Miyata

I think this is a very good proposal. I think there could be a good link for denuclearization of Northeast Asia or the establishment of Northeast Asia nuclear-weapons-free zone. This is impossible on the individual level. Organization level of collaboration is necessary.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Any other questions or comments? Please, Mr. Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace.

Question/Comment from Floor 2:

Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace, Japan

Thank you very much for your presentation. Actually, as he showed in the slide, this year, I was kindly invited to participate in the Jeju Forum. I was so impressed with the participation of 5,000 people from all over the world. They have been doing this more than 10 years, and was quite an impressive city. A small city, but full of history, and very much committed to peace. The governor is very much committed to the membership of the Mayors for Peace. I think North Korean nuclear issue is currently very difficult to resolve, but at the same time, I think the consistent efforts like Jeju in trying to bridge the gap and by combining international efforts, I think we can vision a better future. And I think we need to really respect and support Jeju's endeavor. I just wanted to say this because I was so impressed, although they are in a very difficult situation. They are keeping their vision on the reconciliation and building together a better world. That is something Mayors for Peace as a whole is aiming at. And congratulations for your presentation. Thank you very much.

Mr. Nam-jin Kim

Thank you.

Moderator

Mr. Kim, would you like to make any response to Mr. Komizo's comment?

Mr. Nam-jin Kim

This year, Mr. Komizo, Secretary General took part in the Jeju Peace Forum, and has given a very impressive speech. I was able to participate in this conference, and I was able to learn the efforts by Nagasaki and Hiroshima people. This was a great opportunity for me. So, as we move ahead, we would like to consider what can be done together for the peace in Northeast Asia. We do like to have a collaboration, and the governor of Jeju is also interested in the Mayors for Peace conference, so I'm going to report to him about the outcome of this conference, and I would like to consider what specific collaboration is possible. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Mr. Kim. Please give him a big hand of applause.

Now, let us welcome the third speaker. From Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, Ms. Teruko Yokoyama, please.

Introduction to Peace Activities 3: Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council

Ms. Teruko Yokoyama, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, Japan

I am with Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, my name is Teruko Yokoyama. I would like to talk about today, the roles played by hibakusha groups, especially by Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council and by Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations.

Survivors, or hibakusha, of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were abandoned in the postwar politics and society, alienated in illness, poverty, isolation and discrimination. On March 1, 1954, on Bikini Atoll, a US H-bomb testing was carried out. There was a swirl of deadly ashes on the atoll. The No. 5 Fukuryumaru vessel, and tuna fishing fleets were

exposed to the radiation, and chief radio operator, Mr. Kuboyama, died. The housewives of Sugunami Ward of Tokyo, recognizing the horror of radiation, started a signature campaign to ban the A-bomb. Instantly, they were able to collect as many as 30 million signatures. With this as the power, Japan Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs started to hold world conferences, and the first conference was held in 1955 in Hiroshima. For the first time, hibakusha, who were in silence, started to testify. There were two people joining from Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Young Women's Association, told the inferno of A-bombing and their experiences. Young Women's Association joined with Men's Association in May 1956, and we have created the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Young Men and Women's Association. That was the first association, and I am a member.

Supported by the anti-A- and H-bomb movement, in May of that year, Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Survivors Council, and in June, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council were created. The purpose of establishment is the banning of nuclear weapons and stipulation of A-bomb survivors assistance act. The second world conference was in Nagasaki. At that time, Ms. Chieko Watanabe, who was suffering from injuries in the lower half of the body, made an appeal as her mother accompanied her.

On August 10, hibakusha from all over Japan created Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations. "Let's rescue ourselves and through our experiences, rescue humans out of crisis," that was the declaration. Ever since then, each prefecture created hibakusha association. In the same year in December, we sent a petition to the Diet, and on the following year, 1957, A-bomb Survivors Medicare Law was enacted and health handbooks were issued. And finally, health checkup started. Twelve years after the A-bombing, Japanese government finally started to take action. We promoted our movements to make improvements, and we were able to come up with an act to support hibakusha. Since we are discussing the banning of nuclear weapons, I would like to end the introduction of our activities in hibakusha support.

Through the nationwide peace and nuclear banning movement, there were strong requests by local authorities organizations, and hibakusha of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki went on caravan tours from city to city to tell the atrocity of A-bombing.

Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Young Men and Women's Association, overcoming the injuries and handicaps, they were quite active and went on a tour to tell their stories. Mr. Taniguchi, in spite of the burns and bedsores as you can see in this picture, went even to overseas to testify.

Overseas activities started in 1957. In USSR, China, US, UK, France, Germany, other European countries, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, and Southeast Asian countries, we told the atrocity, cruelty and inhumanity of A-bombing. We went on campaigning, participating in peace conferences. There were only few countries we have not yet visited.

In 1974, we requested for a research to be conducted under the UN initiative to learn the reality of A-bombing and to make efforts for the establishment of a nuclear weapon convention. Under UN NGO's initiative in 1977, symposium on hibakusha issues was held. Related to the researches on hibakusha, three researches on general life, medicine and history of hibakusha began. With this as the basis, renowned figures such as the Nobel laureates and scholars started to do the analysis, having discussions in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Specially the Nobel Peace Laureate Baron Noel-Baker said, "Life of oblivion," and made the declaration to humanity, saying, "Humans are all hibakusha. We have to put our power together to get rid of the nuclear weapons." From that time onwards, "hibakusha" became the common language. The symposium were held to tell the reality of hibakusha in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which was based on scientific foundation and analysis for the first time, which was quite époque-making.

In 1978, there was a rising momentum on the global peace movement and banning of nuclear weapons. The First Special Session of UN General Assembly on Disarmament (SSD1) was held. We sent 41 hibakusha from our confederation, and a total of 502 people were sent from Japan, and submitted the signatures of 20 million. Four years later, the second SSD was held in 1982. A million people went on the demonstration in the avenues of New York. For the first time as hibakusha, in the UN General Assembly Hall, Senji Yamaguchi testified, saying, "No more hibakusha, no more war." The poignant cry moved the people in the world. For the first time, the confederation of Japan translated brochures with pictures into different languages. There was an

anti-nuke movement in Europe on the other hand, and there were requests for hibakusha to come over. We went to Vatican and had the pleasure of seeing the Pope, John Paul II.

In 1985, on the 40th anniversary, 45 members visited the five nuclear weapon states to make requests to the governments and hand exchanges with their citizens. In 1995, asking for the illegality of the nuclear weapons to the International Court of Justice (ICJ), we started a project to resort to the international court, with signatures of more than 3 million from all over Japan. The then Mayor Itoh of Nagasaki City brought a picture of a charred boy by the A-bomb as he made his presentation to the court. On the following year, 1996, ICJ delivered an advisory opinion that threats of the use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law.

In 1997, the Japan Confederation made the photo panels “A-bombing and humanity”, and brochures both in English and Japanese. Starting from 2000, NPT Review Conferences were held and we participated in that year onward. In 2005 in the NGO session, for the first time, the opportunity was given to hibakusha to testify. Also, nine pieces of A-bomb picture panels were exhibited, and we were able to have a poster session with a hibakusha testimony. In the conference of 2010, at the biggest main gallery of the UN lobby, we were able to demonstrate and exhibit 50 panels. In 1996, in Washington DC and other cities, we have done testimony caravan by hibakusha, with the cooperation of Japanese residents and students living in the states. We’ve been doing this every summer.

The average age of hibakusha is now beyond 81 years old, but our wish is the same. We shall not repeat the hell of that day and must abolish nuclear weapons. In April 2016, we announced an international signature campaign to appeal Hiroshima and Nagasaki’s heart to abolish nuclear weapons. We are aiming to collect several hundreds of millions of signatures by 2020. We are receiving a lot of countenance and support from heads of prefectures and cities.

In Nagasaki, we created a prefectural association to appeal widely of the signature campaign. Every month on the 26th, we come out to the streets to collect signatures. Mayor Taue in December, and Governor Nakamura in April, joined with us to collect

the signatures for the total elimination of the nuclear weapons. We are spreading those campaigns in many local authorities.

In the negotiation of the Ban Treaty at the United Nations, we visited so frequently to Geneva and New York, and had an opportunity to take the floor on behalf of the Japan Confederation, and we sent 3 million signatures on June 17. And finally, after 72 years of long waiting, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations. We hope that this will come into force while we are alive. We have to bring the voices of hibakusha, "No more nuclear weapons." Many hibakusha died after dedicating themselves in telling the reality of the A-bombing. The remaining hibakusha, as long as our lives allow us to do so, will continue to tell you the story. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Ms. Yokoyama. Now Mr. Kim needs to leave. Thank you very much.

Concerning the first and the third presentations, now we would like to open the Q&A. Concerning the presentation from Hannover, are there any questions or comments?

May I ask you a question, Mr. Hermann? This art project, it will go to different cities only in Germany, or go to other cities in Europe as well? And will it happen this year?

Mr. Thomas Hermann

We will start next year, 2018, and it will end in 2020.

Moderator

Until 2020. So it's going to be three-year project.

Mr. Thomas Hermann

We are going to start right in the beginning of 2018, and it's not only in Germany and not only in Europe, hopefully, but we hope to invite any Mayors for Peace city in the world who's interested to participate. Actually, we hope to start this traveling exhibition

here in Japan, in the cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima, hopefully, because I think this would be a strong signal to the world that this is something that supports the mission.

Moderator

Mayor Matsui, Mayor Taue, I sincerely hope that Japanese cities are going to participate, so I we would like to urge your support.

Any other questions or comments? We, human beings, wish to leave our traces. I think legacy may be a too big word for me, but everybody has a hope, strong desire to leave something behind. So, tire trace on asphalt is also a beautiful piece of art, which was quite impressive to hear. A city is a kind of a collection of traces of many people. In Nagasaki, you find many traces. Every Sunday, I walk about 10 kilometers in the city, and every time I find something new. I always find some new traces. Some are very famous, but others are not famous at all. They represent our lives themselves. So, that was the conception of the art project, and I was very much impressed by the concept. This year, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, so why don't you incorporate that fact into your art project, Dr. Menges? I know that this commemorates the 50th anniversary of NPT, but what about what happened this year, adoption of the Treaty? Can't you incorporate that aspect into your art project, if possible?

Dr. Raimund Menges

Yes, we are still developing about the collateral actions. I mean there are still ways to go. There are so many ideas that we are working on, providing an image on what happened. In our website, there are a few examples, like with matchboxes. There is one project, for example, that works with 7,400-something matchboxes where we want to have people write every single name of a Mayors for Peace city on it, and arrange them. This is, for example, one of the action boxes. In the same sense, we could of course include, and we will think about including more of these actions that would pick up as actual development. Ban Treaty is one of the things we should include, and I think there are more things to come over the next couple of months. Who knows what's going to happen politically and in all negotiations? So we will take this into account while we develop these collateral actions. I think this is a good platform to incorporate this.

Moderator

Thank you very much. I've been to Hannover once, and from the City Hall, I could see the view of the city. Hannover, as you know, experienced air raid and the city was destroyed by the bombing, and in that city of Hannover, now an art project is being prepared. It's really moving to know that.

In Jeju, they have a project of "peace belt." What do you think about that kind of project, Mr. Hermann? What do you think about Jeju's project of building a peace belt? It may sound similar or also different. What do you think about that project?

Mr. Thomas Hermann

I think the peace belt is very important and it is even necessary to intensify these efforts. We see these days the potential of A-bomb, by visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and at the same time, we are looking at the threat coming out from the global battle between the United States and North Korea, so it is even more important these days. We will take every opportunity to work for peace.

Moderator

Thank you very much, Mr. Hermann.

Another question from the floor, but please wait for the microphone. Could you give us your name and affiliation?

Question/Comment from Floor 3:

Ms. Tomoko Maekawa, Nagasaki, Japan

My name is Tomoko Maekawa, a citizen in Nagasaki. I am participating in the citizens' movement against A-bomb. It's not directly related to art. Petition drive for the A-bomb abolition and Ban Treaty. Japan and Germany are under the nuclear umbrella of the US. In that sense, Japan and Germany shares the same situation. Thinking about Japan, citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and national government, we see differences in the way of thinking, but what about the situation in Germany?

Moderator

Mr. Hermann, are you ready to respond?

Mr. Thomas Hermann

This is not easy to answer. Most people in Germany are against American nuclear weapons that are currently in Germany. Majority of the people don't see this as a protection, but rather as a risk. But we need to make a difference between what Mayors for Peace cities do and can do, working for a nuclear weapon-free zone, and what is internationally possible. Cities do not have any influence on the issue where these nuclear weapons are based. We are part of NATO, and this is a contradiction itself. On one side we need to accept that we are in NATO and that NATO has nuclear weapons, and on the other side, we have to live with it. So, again the question is what we can do on one side and what can we do as cities, and on the other side, what is internationally possible to change.

Moderator

Thank you very much for responding to a question that includes some difficult aspects. We do appreciate your very honest response. What just stated is the attitude of Hannover as a city. Thank you very much. Are there any related questions? Any follow-up questions or comments? Mr. Komizo and one more person is ready to speak, but please wait.

Question/Comment from Floor 4:

Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Japan

Thank you very much for a very important comment, or the question given by the Nagasaki citizen. It was quite important. This is not the overall opinion of Mayors for Peace, but please allow me to talk about what the secretariat is preparing, and this is something very important.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, during the process to the adoption, five or six years ago, those advocates were saying that nuclear-weapon states are not interested at all, so it's better to prepare and adopt treaty excluding the nuclear-weapon states in order to give them disgrace. And they said discriminately that NPT should be

destroyed. This was the starting attitude toward the Treaty. But Mayors for Peace have taken the following attitude; we know that a ban is necessary, but we cannot physically reduce nuclear weapons if we are going to have a treaty without the nuclear-weapon states. We know it's difficult, but the ban must be realized together with the nuclear-weapon states.

What happened is as follows. We came up with the adoption of the Treaty without the presence of nuclear-weapon states, but we have successfully included our proposals from Mayors for Peace. First, we need to adopt the Treaty, and after that, we will try further efforts to incorporate the participation of the nuclear-weapon nations to join. And such additional provision was added in the statement of the Treaty. Because we made such assertion and made strong urge to the United Nations, a German representative honestly said, the majority of the Japanese people are wishing for a nuclear-free world, but in reality, when you look at the international community from state to state, they are quite dependent on nuclear umbrella. Now how are we going to make a change in this? When we think about that, there was ICAN organization and there was the basis of motivation to promote such voices. Five or six years ago, hibakusha's voices were not heard, but because there are several tens of thousands nuclear warheads still existing, and there is a possibility that if it is used, there will be a death toll of a million. Regarding Hiroshima and Nagasaki, some people say it was only a destruction in a small city, but there is a high level of possibility and risk that a nuclear weapon might destruct more people if it is used. But the reason why we were successful in adopting the Treaty is because of the accidents and errors, there is a possibility that a nuclear weapon might be utilized. 2014 was the beginning year, and many people were able to hear the voices of hibakusha. Everybody thought it was a history in the past. But they started to recognize that there is a high probability that it may be utilized in the US, in Africa, in the Middle East, and in Asia, anybody can become victims of A-bombs, same as Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and that was the recognition. They started to become aware that they cannot be dependent on the actions of nuclear-weapon nations. They started to say, "There is a right for everybody to participate in the negotiation." So even the Treaty was adopted, it will be meaningless without the nuclear weapons states and states under their nuclear umbrella. So the Mayors for Peace proposed a particular provision to be added in the Treaty.

Just between you and me, this is not an open comment. Mayors for Peace and ICAN discussed this. They said the nuclear-weapon nations and allies under the nuclear umbrella, we have to cooperate and have people join in on this discussion because every citizen thinks there is a query in their safety and it is very important. You have to bring the voices of the citizens. And those citizens have to bring their voices to the central government, and that has to be strongly appealed, and there would be a dramatic change. We cannot move the US only with our bilateral relationship, so is the case of Germany and NATO nations, South Africa, Australia, and these countries, they, together with citizens, are now starting to think in a different way. If everybody can recognize that, I think we can make a change. Now that we have the Ban Treaty in front of us, what's important here in our activity is the citizens and the government of each country. We have to put our voices, saying that there has to be a different way. We are able to move them. There is no way we can solve the issues of intelligence by nuclear weapons. This is indeed a mayors association, but mayors alone are not able to make a big move. You have to appeal to your citizens in each local authority and those citizens have to appeal to the central government, and we have to create a surge and wave. That is the reason why we are saying this is going to be a very good momentum. We will be able to create a bigger driving force and the feelings and experiences of hibakusha are the foundation. Because of that, there is the strength in Mayors for Peace. This is something I wanted to share with the people of Nagasaki.

Moderator

Thank you very much. That was a big speech. Any other person who would like to make comment?

Question/Comment from Floor 5:

After a big speech, as a citizen of Nagasaki, allow me to make a comment. The peace activities by Germany was something I was very much interested in. And also the students of Germany, whom I met during my voyage on the Peaceboat, used the catch phrase "new-born Germany." They said they need to create a new Germany. Nuclear power generation plants will be abolished by 2020 and the Auschwitz site is cleaned by automobile manufacturer employees, and also today, we were able to have the peace

making by way of art. In terms of sensitivity, I believe I would like to make the admiration and commendation of your activities. Prof. Tomonaga, how can we make a change in Japan, something by art? I believe this is very big proposal put on the table for us.

Another issue is hibakusha. You said, "What we can do as the citizens." And of course, theoretically you have to do your job in Mayors for Peace, especially, Japanese government is reluctant to participate, so you have to give a push to the central government from Mayors for Peace. Most of the mayors of Nagasaki Prefecture are not here, Mayor of Unzen is not here. What's happening to them? Also, about the international signature campaign. In Germany, are you engaged with the signature collection campaign? So the question is to the German representative. Are you engaging with the signature collection? Are you doing the signature campaign?

Moderator

Mr. Hermann, do you know about the global campaign for collecting signatures? Hibakusha are taking initiative in collecting signatures. Do you do the same in Germany? Do you participate?

Mr. Thomas Hermann

I'm not aware of the campaign with the signatures you mentioned, but I think that would be absolutely something very good to do also in Germany to support the effort of the cities, to stop this crazy process with the nuclear weapons. As cities, we are fighting for peace and we do talk and challenge our government and also NATO to change the thinking.

And I fully agree with Komizo-san in what he said and an example for this change of perception and change of thinking. I think Germany can be, since in our country we are debating and discussing for many years about the peaceful use of nuclear power plants. And there is a strong movement for decades, which is against the use of nuclear power for creating electricity and energy, and finally, the terrible accident in Fukushima had led to a big cry of German people, and finally led to the result that Germany is going to shut off all the nuclear power plants step by step. We've already shut down about 50%

of those that were there. And within the next six to seven years, the rest will be shut down. So we hope that the risk that simply are in these power plants shall be banned. This is an important step. In Germany, it is a very important step in the change of thinking because we are here not only talking about the peaceful use of atomic energy to produce electricity, but it goes along with debate about nuclear weapons. Maybe this is also an important step toward an atomic-free world, to start switching off your power plants, and this could be a nice example maybe for the rest of the world.

Moderator

Thank you very much.

Are there any questions to Ms. Yokoyama? Would you please identify yourself with your name?

Question/Comment from Floor 6:

Ms. Miho Cibot-Shimma, Malakoff, France

I am from France, a nuclear-weapon nation, my name is Miho Cibot-Shimma. I live in Malakoff. We are the Lead City of France, Mayors for Peace, and we have created the French Chapter because there were several visits by the representatives of Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations, Shuntaro Hida, who died this year, and Sumiteru Taniguchi, who is now hospitalized. They were on French TV several times. They had an opportunity to testify in many places in France. High school students in France said to us, they were worried about the aging hibakusha, and they were very much afraid that hibakusha might be gone, and they were very much afraid that they are not able to listen to the testimonies of hibakusha anymore. And they said, we would be able to share the memories of hibakusha, and they are able to succeed and inherit their testimonies. But the average age of hibakusha is 81 years old. How are you planning to deliver the message of hibakusha? I believe there is an association of the second generation of hibakusha. What is the activity of theirs to disseminate their message?

Moderator

In the interest of time, would like to be responding very briefly? Thank you very much.

Ms. Teruko Yokoyama

Yes, the average age of hibakusha is about 81. In Japan Confederation, directors are already approximately 70 years old, but in the secretariat, they are making their best efforts. The experiences of hibakusha, speakers of testimonies, and supporters of testimony meetings, need to work together to do more. But how are we going to keep the testimonies of hibakusha? Maybe a video clip, or pictures, or drawings by hibakusha, or a collection of testimonies. Those might be some of the means and tools by which we will be able to keep.

About the second or third generation of hibakusha, young people and supporters of us, for example, in France, I heard that there are a lot of young people who are determined to give us their support. In Japan, high school students and young people are very eager to connect the hearts of hibakusha to the next generation. With the strong expectation and wishes, we hope that we will be able to pass our wishes and hopes over to the next generation. We hope that we will be able to continue that.

Moderator

Thank you very much. To listen to hibakusha in person may be very difficult, almost impossible in 10 years from now. Today, she mentioned some of the plans to overcome that severe difficulty. That is exactly the challenge taken up seriously in Nagasaki.

Due to my poor time management, we don't have sufficient time left, but among civic societies in Japan, early on, the nuclear issues have been tackled by this particular organization, and that has been taking the leadership in this movement. Now we have Mr. Umebayashi, Director of RECNA. So today, regarding the role of NGO citizen groups, or the role of cities at large, Mr. Umebayashi, Special Advisor to Peace Depot Inc. is going to give us his summary. We might have to spend some time of the break.

Summary:

Mr. Hiromichi Umebayashi, Special Advisor, Peace Depot Inc., Japan

Thank you very much. My name is Umebayashi. We don't have much time left, but I think there has been a very good session, so please allow me to say a few words. At the

outset of the four-day conference, Mayor Taue discussed a starting point. That is important for the whole conference. He mentioned that there are two starting points. One is the starting point of hibakusha experience, and the second point is the starting point of network formation among cities. I think these two important starting points are condensed, or in a sense culminated, in this morning session.

We received three presentations this morning, and each one of them showed that each city has unforgettable incidents in the past, and they have a very strong internal urge to do something from their past experience. All organizations of cities have such important and strong experience, and I think that gives a power to the organization, Mayors for Peace, and I reconfirmed this in this session. Through transmitting that starting point experience to others or to next generation, we feel the need to have partnership with each other among cities and other entities involved. Mayors for Peace is an organization that allows to collaborate further with each other, and that is the secondary confirmation I was able to obtain here this morning.

Hannover's "50 Cities – 50 Traces" project is very unique, innovative project. It creates a cultural impetus, and this project itself gives us further inspiration to move forward. Each city has a legacy of the past, especially civil war, civil conflicts or other kinds of war where they remember that citizens were ill-treated, and finding such traces would encourage cities to link up with each other further. I believe that that was truly the project, represented by this "50 Cities – 50 Traces." And they are going to run this project from 2018 to 2020, the target year for our important 2020 campaign. A very innovative project, indeed.

And for Jeju projects, I really wanted to discuss more with Mr. Kim if his time had allowed, but I gained deep interest in Jeju's activities. I think Japanese people have some unsettling sentiments in their hearts. On April 3, 1948, a tragedy took place in Jeju Island. Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula, and that resulted in the division into two Koreas, and with the deliberation of the Koreans, strong movements emerged among Koreans to unite the two Koreas, and there was such a strong uprising among citizens in Jeju also. So, in a sense, Japanese colonization of Korean Peninsula led, to some extent, to this tragedy In Jeju Island. One Korean resident living in Japan, a poet, Mr. Sijong

Kim, wrote a poem about this incident. He is a Korean resident in Japan and he was recently awarded important prize called "Osaragi Jiro Award." This is a short book of his autobiography about how he has been living as a Korean living in Japan. He was one of the survivors of that incident, and how he had changed and how he tried hard to become a person loving japan, and how he could be involved in that riot uprising in Korea and he came over to Japan illegally and became a Korean resident in Japan.

Memories resonate with each other. There seems to be a very strong resonance of memories among individuals, and each city has such a strong potential with respect to memories. With respect to activities by Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations. I will not repeat as I'm sure those activities are already introduced to you. Culture of peace can be forged out of citizens' experiences. Such activities of creating culture of peace from citizens, I believe, is going to play a decisive role for the real eradication of nuclear weapons once we have this Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I believe that that process is very important.

This road ahead of us is going to be more challenging and more difficult than the pathway toward realizing the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and I think that civil society is now being tested, challenged whether we are apt to that challenge. Kissinger, Perry, Shultz and Nunn issued powerful messages and they spoke of the followings. When a nuclear-free world is realized, and when we think of national security, people's disposition, or rather, how the people think about security, that big mindset change is necessary in order to realize a nuclear-free world. And I think their statements are really becoming true today.

Also, the world free from nuclear weapons is today's world without nuclear weapons. With the treaty prohibiting the nuclear weapons, we have the treaty but we do not have a new way of thinking regarding security. Therefore, we need to go through process of changing our mindset concerning the security, and we need to realize the eradication of nuclear weapons. For people's disposition, the way they think, and new civil transformation, I believe that citizens' power in making that change is going to be decisive. And in that sense, Mayors for Peace has a very important role to play, and the organization, Mayors for Peace, is supportive by grassroots. People's power is going to

be more needed as we move ahead than before. And Japanese government and the nuclear weapons state, their ideology about nuclear weapons have to be changed through such power. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Mr. Umebayashi has given a wonderful summary, so I have no further things to add. But nuclear issues or the peaceful use of nuclear power are regarded as matters to be dealt with by national governments. In that case, what can we, the cities, say about them? In the case of Japanese cities, that seems to block the city's way forward, but the city is supported by citizens and residents. And the citizens are the people, players who make a real memory in history. I think that is very well reflected in the international art project by Hannover. So, when each individual's experience is accumulated, it becomes a history. And hibakusha's urgent call is reflected in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Ms. Yokoyama didn't say that so clearly, but that is a clear-cut long years of testimony, telling by hibakusha I believe, has spread throughout the world and moved the world toward the adoption of the treaty. I have no doubt about it. With this, I would like to conclude this session. The role of cities, local authorities as we try to really realize a world without nuclear weapons, I believe that we were able to reaffirm the important starting points. Mayors for Peace, "Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons." How will our organization speak up to national governments? I hope that that will be addressed by Mayors for Peace as one of the activist. That's my hope. Thank you very much.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session V

Summary and Reporting of Session II, III & IV

*August 10 (Thu), 2017 11:15-12:15
Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus*

Chairperson:

Tomihisa Taue

Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

Summary and Reporting:

Tatsujiro Suzuki

Director, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA),
Nagasaki University, Japan

Keiko Nakamura

Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition
(RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

Masao Tomonaga

Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens'
Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Japan

**Adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the
Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons**

MC

Thank you very much for waiting. We are going to start Session V. Mayor of Nagasaki, Mayor Taue is going to chair the session.

Chairperson: Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki City, Japan

Good afternoon. I am Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki. We are now coming to the final program of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. This is Session V.

First, concerning Session II, III and IV, the moderator for each session is going to give us a report. Then, we are going to adopt the Nagasaki Appeal. Now, let us start with the moderator for Session II “Roles of Local Governments.” Prof. Suzuki, Director of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, please.

Summary and Reporting of Session II:

Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

Thank you. I served as moderator for Session II. I am Tatsujiro Suzuki. The theme for the session was “Roles of Local Governments.” First presentation was from Mr. Thomas Hermann from Hannover, Germany, and then Mayor Jaime Fresnedi from Muntinlupa, Philippines, and from Malakoff and Grigny in France, Mr., Michel Cibot and Mayor Philippe Rio made a presentation, and from Ayabe City in Japan, Mayor Zenya Yamazaki gave a presentation.

Concerning the presentation by Hannover, “50 Cities – 50 Traces” project was introduced. And also the mayor said that Hannover is the sister city of Hiroshima, and has agreed to contribute and support the growth of Mayors for Peace. On July 8, commemorating ICJ’s advisory opinion, they have the Flag Day. I was very much impressed by the ginkgo tree project. The planting of seedlings of ginkgo which has been grown from the seeds from the A-bombed tree.

The City of Muntinlupa talked about the very shocking fact that ISIS is having a very

serious impact on the children, and talked about the importance of peace education for children.

France is a nuclear-weapon state. Malakoff and Grigny talked about the efforts made as members of Mayors for Peace. AFCDRP and LPACP were introduced. They also talked about the collaboration with Africa. People are sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and also talked about the importance of peace and peace education. Issues like violence and poverty in cities, makes those people most vulnerable to climate change, and talked about the importance of culture of peace. I was impressed by the concept of culture of peace.

Then Ayabe City in Japan, the first Japanese city to declare as the member of World Federation, is quite active in peace activities. It's a sister city with Israel, and Ayabe City leads the Middle East Peace Project. From Israel and Palestine, they invite children affected by war and they stay in a Japanese city for two weeks. The project started in 2003. I was moved by a former participant's words, "Realization of peace was impossible for my parents' generation, but perhaps it would be possible for our generation."

Then we had Q&A. It was about the contents of peace education, how much impact the peace education can have on the reality, and importance of inheritance of the memories, and how we can ensure to have impact on the policies.

Then Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, representing Mexico City, talked about the project. This is a disarmament project in families. When people bring those arms to city office, they are given something positive instead, so this is an ongoing grass-root level disarmament.

Then Mr. Michel Tomasek from Dunkirk talked about a project of memory cities, networking cities for the inheritance of war memories.

From a nuclear-weapons country, India, Mr. Thomas Mathew of Mallapuzhasserry City talked about collecting petition for peace, and he presented collected signatures to the

mayor of Hiroshima.

Then Mr. Kenji Kitahashi of Kitakyushu City talked about the tree-planting project of Kayoko cherry trees, originally from Nagasaki.

Then, the former mayor of Rawanduz, Mr. MP. Serwan Abdullah Ismail from Iraq talked about the ongoing suffering, especially those caused by the use of chemical weapons. At this moment, people are suffering. This is what he told us.

Then, there was a summary given by Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace. He said in each city, taking its own approach, efforts for peace are done quite sincerely. He was very much impressed by the efforts made by various cities. As you heard from Mr. Komizo, He gave us a very passionate message, saying that everybody is really serious. Sharing of experience and solidarity gives us strengths to Mayors for Peace. And he said that we have to show that Mayors for Peace can make a strong contribution.

Please allow me to add three more points. I think I found something common among different presentations and comments. I found three of them. One is the balance between rationality and emotion. We tend to focus more on the rational aspect because we are scientists, but art and testimonies by hibakusha and photos and movies, they are part of the culture. We have heard about the culture of peace. We have to influence both the rational aspect on human spirit, together with emotional aspect. What happened in the past is part of history, but learning from the history to support the present, and the present is the starting point for future. When we think about peace education, someone asked if learning about the past alone is enough, and I would say that learning about the past is the basis of today, and today is the starting point for future. We have to come back to this issue of the relationship between past, present and future.

In the previous session, another important concept was network: networking, connection, and collaboration. One of the strengths of Mayors for Peace is that we have a network. And connection among individual people and individual cities are the basis of the global network. I was very much impressed by the fact that the members of

Mayors for Peace know that what you are doing in your city and are stimulating each other, uniting the overall efforts. So networking is the third concept. Although the term “network” sounds quite flat, but actually when we use the term “networking,” it means something very deep.

In the session, I think I became passionate and asked you to join me. Ultimately, we need to think about the importance of humanity. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, and approaches toward the adoption was done in humanity-based, or humanitarian approach. If we forget about humanity, we cannot achieve anything. Remember your humanity and forget the rest. This is an expression from Russell-Einstein Manifesto, and I would like to conclude with the same word. Remember your humanity and forget the rest. Thank you very much.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. On the theme of “Roles of Local Governments,” this theme is a kind of basis or fundamental theme for Mayors for Peace. As we see more members, we started to see some regional differences. But this theme, roles of local governments, is always new and old. I think that the summary was quite insightful because the talks were about the basis for activities.

Now I’d like to turn to Session III. Moderator, Ms. Keiko Nakamura, Associate Professor of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University is going to give us a summary.

Summary and Reporting of Session III:

Ms. Keiko Nakamura, Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to first show you the slides of discussions and activities that took place yesterday, and I would like to go through my summary. I would like you to look at those photos to see what happened yesterday. Some of you were perhaps absent yesterday. You see many young people in the photos, and “The Role of Youth” was the theme of Session III. In our efforts to try to eradicate nuclear weapons, the role of youth is, needless to say, important, and that has been

repeatedly said. As Prof. Suzuki mentioned earlier, logic and emotions, young people gaining knowledge from different points of view and perspectives, and they learn how other people think, and then they begin to form their own ideas, and in that sense, knowledge is important as the basis. But humanity or personality, young people don't have such a tragic experience themselves, but they have the ability to have empathy to the sad experiences of those people. And they could understand such an event as something that could also happen to them. Having compassion or empathy toward others is really important for them to develop.

Now, in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, it is said that nuclear disarmament education is more important. Then how does it relate to the discussion we had yesterday? Yes, of course we need to implement peace education programs and outcome of such programs is very important. But the process of preparing a peace education program needs involvement and input from young people, and that itself is going to be a learning opportunity for them. For example, yesterday, young people made plans of peace activities, and one of them was providing multilingual translations of testimonies of hibakusha. Multilingual translations of testimonies themselves are very important because they can be understood by various people. But on the other hand, in that process of translation, they will learn to have compassion and to try to feel what they really felt in that tragedy. They also have to learn the historical background. Translation is not just a matter of language. They need to have an attitude to try to learn the feelings and emotions, the real experience of hibakusha. Young people in each member city, are working together with member cities, for peace program plan is very important, and I think that was so demonstrated in the discussion session yesterday.

Now I would like to go through what happened yesterday in the discussion. At first, it started with a speech by His Excellency Taro Kono, Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs. Then we had presentations by two member cities of Mayors for Peace. One is Manchester City from the UK, and the second is Granollers City from Spain. They introduced their peace activities and showed us very interesting photos. For instance, in Manchester, they have Project G. They use seedlings taken from the A-bombed ginkgo tree, and what was very impressive is that they use this motif, A-bombed ginkgo tree and they use it in multiple directions in peace education. Tree planting is just one action,

that seems very natural for such a tree, but then, it could become a starting point for creative ideas about how the tree can be used for various other ideas. Then Granollers discussed a city open to peace. How traces and legacies of civil war can be used in peace education was demonstrated by Granollers City. That was very impressive.

And then, high school students, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commercial High School, students from these two schools made a very eloquent presentation and that was truly impressive to me. For instance, Peace Department Store or Drama Club of Nagasaki Commercial High School, and they issued a Joint Peace Declaration. Those are the activities that can be done because they are high school students. Young people, varied in age, some elementary school children or those in their twenties, they have different age level and different social backgrounds. So they take advantage of their own situation and background as they get involved in peace activities.

After the presentation, young people got engaged in the group work. Some of those groups also made presentations, for instance, Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers, Nagasaki Youth Delegation and Kyoto University of Foreign Studies. For group work, some of you are here, and later I would like to hear from you what impression you obtained from that session. Some may have been surprised. It was an activity for young people's groups to work with cities to plan a peace activity. This is not just discussion on the desk. It's not for the sake of discussion. They had to come up with a plan which is workable and practicable toward the next Mayors for Peace conference, and that was a very unique and interesting attempt, tried for the first time in the general conference.

Thirty-two young people from all over the country participated. College students, high school students and adults, and some came from Tokyo and Kyoto, and some were international students now studying in Japan. They were split into six groups and already spent three weeks for the preparation for yesterday's discussion. Each group did preparatory studies on the city assigned to them, and for them, some of the cities were not known before. Earlier I mentioned that the whole process is a learning process for the young people, so they learned about the city assigned to them from scratch. They had discussions in the process. On certain cases, they sent email enquiries to city officials. And they produced short-term and long-term plans for peace of each cities,

and yesterday, taking 50 minutes, six groups from Group A to Group F had a final process of discussion. Musashino City of Tokyo, Vitry-sur-Seine of France, Ypres of Belgium, Mexico City of Mexico, Fongo-Tongo of Cameroon, and Biograd na Moru of Croatia, worked with those young people's groups respectively. The plans they came up with could be applied not only to those cities they worked with, but also to other cities. Some of the cities here may find some of the plans that young people came up with very interesting. With that notion in mind, young people discussed and prepared short-term and long-term plans.

Let me go through the discussion they had. First, on the point of young people, some said that they do have interest in peace activities, but felt they cannot join them so easily. So some suggested on creating a casual forum for students to get together easily and the city could provide such place for young people to get together to talk about peace and war, and they could invite local celebrities or city leadership to such discussions.

Another was that students should interview survivors of war of respective cities, and they could take part in a speech competition, and the winners could go and visit their counterpart city for further studies and experience. Exchange program was also mentioned by other groups, but the important point is that such student education abroad program should be based upon peace education. As part of the study abroad program, students could get involved in translation of various testimonies.

Some of the proposals were very unique to young people, for instance, use of SNS or use of new information technology. For instance, AR, augmented reality, or the use of virtual reality was mentioned as the enabling technologies. In Germany, there are what they call "stumbling stones." Likewise, physical trail of peace exists in different cities. If you wear AR glasses, then, on the pathway, the walker is able to get various visual information about what happened on that trail. That was one plan.

There were many proposals for workshops and events, but the important thing is that those events or workshops shouldn't be just one time event, but as is exemplified by the term "culture of peace," those events should be able to take deep roots in the local communities. Some mentioned that a big change can be brought about from a small city.

Also, networking importance was emphasized, so in various member cities of Mayors for Peace, maybe some cities could establish a section of youths so that young people are able to get in touch with each other and network with each other as we go ahead.

Their contents of the presentations are shown on the white papers which are posted outside in the foyer, so please stop by and read them. Yesterday, the young people became friends with each other, so last night after the discussion, they all came together in a gathering and they said that they were really happy because they were able to speak with a mayor, the leader of a local authority, and that was a hard-to-get occasion for them. They were able to discuss not about what they want to do, but what the city needs. They listened to demands and needs of the city, and they had the real opportunity of making a thorough research about the city beforehand, and came up with a plan which is suitable for the city. And they had a very good communication with each other and with the cities. They already exchanged business cards, name cards and addresses, and they were very happy.

I hope that the experience they had will not be the end, but is a step toward a further networking and activities. Thank you very much. I have spoken too long.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. We had the discussion on the roles of the cities, and that was the main theme we have been discussing from the beginning of Mayors for Peace, but the roles of youth is a new subject matter which is very much paid attention to by many representatives. I think it was a challenge. I was watching what was discussed in the groups. They were quite lively and buoyant, and Prof. Nakamura has been broadcasting the contents of discussions, about what's happening in each table. That was so good. I am so glad that we organized that session. On the second floor of this auditorium, there were junior high school students from four junior high schools, and they were observing what's happening on the stage. They were very much frustrated because they were seated in distance so they came to the stage. Together with high school students, who were a little bit older than they are, they were watching what was being discussed there. This trial was a great success, I thought. In the near future, as we continue our activities

of Mayors for Peace, we hope that we will be able to continue this kind of meetings, with this as the first meeting of youth, especially deepening exchanges between mayors of local authorities and young people. The points of discussion are listed on the posters in the hallway.

Now, Session IV, this was held today. Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is going to give us the summary.

Summary and Reporting of Session IV:

Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens' Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Japan

I believe most of the audience attended Session IV, which ended just now. I don't think I have much to report, but there were three presentations. The theme of the session is "Roles of NGOs, Citizens' Groups and A-bombs Survivors' Groups, etc." The members of the cities, what they are doing and what they can do.

As the first speaker from Hannover, Germany, an art project was presented. Starting from next year for three years, they are going to go through more than 20 cities including the other cities in Europe, including Berlin. "50 Cities – 50 Traces," an international art project. The idea and conception is quite unique. Whenever we talk about peace activities, we try to set a theme, try to collect people and have a discussion that is the ordinary way. But their idea was quite different. When we think about human life, it is very transient and ephemeral. If you want to leave something in the society, on this globe, maybe if you become a grown-up, which can be counted as the legacy to the cities, but for each individual's mind and heart, there is something they would like to keep as a trace or as their legacy. Those can be expressed in ways of drawings and pictures. There, the theme of peace can be embraced.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the NPT. Especially NATO and EU countries, embracing those issues in Germany, linking with the abolition of nuclear weapons and incorporating that theme, they have made such a plan in art project.

The biggest objective is to have people get-together. Otherwise you cannot start anything. When you have people gathered here, then dialogue and friendship can be created. The friendship can become the foundation of furtherance of peace. One women's art collection can be shown. It was quite refreshing as an idea and as a plan. For us, engaging in peace activities, it was quite eye-opening.

Second presentation is from our adjacent nation, South Korea, a very close place to Nagasaki. From Jeju Island, we listened to the peace activities, especially because it is a peace island. Rooted in the history of Jeju, after the war, released from the colony by Japan, they thought how to unify the Korean Peninsula. But there were differences in notions, and because of that, there was a fighting before the Korean War. In Jeju Island, opponents were massacred and as many as 30,000 people were killed. So this is the beginning of the conception of this idea, based on their history in Jeju.

As a local authority, they have the Peace Research Institute. Geographically, Jeju Island is located in the center of Japan, South Korea, and China. So they hold various peace forums. For example, UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)'s human resource development program and youth peace forum, which I believe there were many participants from Japan. In such circumstances, one of the big themes they are tackling is the currently divided Korean Peninsula, and exchanges between south and north should be promoted in the private sector. There are various volunteer groups, and arts and cultural groups. They can incorporate and integrate all those different activities and initiatives of Jeju City. With a very long history, they have an assembly. I believe there were 6,000 people gathered in that assembly.

And they have a plan to establish the "peace belt." Northeast Asia nuclear-free zone is one of the themes studied in RECNA in Nagasaki University, but in the broader scope of ideas, they are planning to create the peace belt. They will also work on ecology, and embrace those ideas as well. Very specific ideas are planned. With the DPRK, they are planning to invite them to have a dialogue in Jeju Forum, and exchanges of visits between the North and the South. There is a big mountain in Jeju Island, and there is Mt. Baekdu in the DPRK, and there is a plan to have exchanges between the two tourist destinations. I believe they are wonderful plans.

And the last presentation was by the representative from Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council. Their nationwide organization is Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (*hidankyo*). The speaker talked about their history. Starting from 1950s, especially after the Bikini Atoll H-bomb testing, there was a tremendous surge of campaign, starting from the housewives in Tokyo, which spread to Shizuoka Prefecture. That is the movement to adamantly oppose against H-bombs and A-bombs. She has given quick rundown of the history, especially focusing on hibakusha of Nagasaki. It is also a negative history for the hibakusha suffering from injuries and aftereffects.

She was focusing on the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Young Men and Women's Association, and the two associations merged which became a nationwide organization, the Japan Confederation. But there must have been a lot of difficulties, be it the financial matters, and they are expanding its network. In the UN disarmament conference, "No more Hiroshima, no more Nagasaki, no more war" was advocated by Senji Yamaguchi. He died several years ago. Through the forces of hibakusha, such waves have continued. In New York, in the negotiation process of the Ban Treaty, there were the voices of hibakusha, and in the preamble of the Ban Treaty, a credit was given to the voices of hibakusha.

This is my personal note, but testimonies of hibakusha have spread out to the world, but after 50 years from the end of the war, there was the pessimistic perception among the hibakusha at that time. They started to be concerned that "We are not able to be heard. We have been calling for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, but I don't think we are successful in communicating our voices. We are making our best efforts, but we are not being heard." This was their pessimistic perception at that time. It's been 22 years since then. After 72 years from the end of the war, especially in the past five years, we had been focusing on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, and there was a big movement to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I believe the origin of such activities was the voices of hibakusha. Ms. Yokoyama has given such history.

After those three presentations, there was a general discussion. We took a lot of questions, among which the important question raised was, the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, but in the case of Japan, because of the security policy, that is the nuclear umbrella policy which they are clinging on to, so they are not able to participate. They insist that this is the decision made by the central government, but on the other hand, citizens, especially hibakusha think, "How can the country that suffered the atomic bombing- not able to participate in this Treaty?" There is the frustration among part of the citizens.

And there was a question to Hannover, and Mr. Hermann, Vice Mayor of Hannover said, among the citizens in Germany, because nuclear weapons of the United States are deployed in Germany, there are a lot of citizens who think it as a risk, and majority of the people wish to join the Treaty, but as a member of NATO, it is not possible. I believe the Netherlands is the member of NATO who participated in the negotiation, and the only country which voted against it. This is indeed the issue which is embraced by the German government.

Now, how are we going to bring the voices of citizens to the central government? There, I believe we are able to act as intermediary for the citizens, and there was a big speech by Mr. Komizo, Secretary General. In the provision of the Treaty, a special provision was included by a proposal made by Mayors for Peace, so that the nuclear-weapon nations, as well as allies under their nuclear umbrella can join the Treaty. We hope that we will be able to push forward to try to fill the gap between the nuclear-weapon nations and abolition advocates. We should never be divided. We need to try to unify and fuse those different opinions. Ms. Nakamitsu, representative of the United Nations who attended the Peace Ceremony on behalf of the United Nations as the Under-Secretary-General, said, there are nuclear-weapon nations who are the members of the NPT, and there are, on the other hand, the advocates of banning of nuclear weapons. She questioned, "Is there any idea to try to fuse and integrate those different opinions?" I believe this is the most important question. This was raised by one of the citizens in the panel. Because of that, we had a very good discussion.

There are some other points of the discussions, but if I start to say everything I don't

think I have enough time. Civil society, civil groups and the roles to be played by them should be culminated to the activities of the cities. I thought Session IV was very good. Thank you very much.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. Session IV focused on the roles of the civil society, and the civil society is the source of power for Mayors for Peace. The background and history of each cities are different, and therefore it's important and it's possible to learn from each other.

We are 20 minutes behind, but I would like to invite some comments from the member cities participating here. Anybody with comments or would like to share your impression about the conference? We will invite two representatives, and they are given the floor.

Comment from the Member City:

Mr. Hoshyar Siwaily, Kurdistan Democratic Party, Iraq

Good morning. My name is Siwaily. I am heartfelt for the large delegation. We've come from Iraqi Kurdistan, we've come 12,000 kilometers, across the border of many countries, to come and join you in remembering the victims of these two terrible tragedies. We are here also to show our commitment and extend our hands to you and to the member cities in enhancing peace in the world. The Mayor of Sinjar was with us, but he had to fly to Karachi and he couldn't attend this morning session. He had a statement to read and he gave me this statement to read it on his behalf. So please allow me to read this statement.

The Yazidis, I don't know to what extent you've heard about, but I'm sure you have heard about the massacre and genocide of the Yazidis in Iraqi Kurdistan three years ago, but this statement is about that genocide, and the massacre of the Yazidis. The first act of genocide in the 21st century was carried out against Yazidis Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan on August 3, 2014 by the terrorist organization of the Islamic State. This unprovoked attack on mostly civilian people caught the attention of the world and facilitated the creation of an international coalition to combat the Islamic State worldwide. The

Yazidis, a distinct religious community are one of the most ancient components of the Kurdish nation. They are mainly concentrated in the Sinjar district in Iraqi Kurdistan. Sinjar is located 150 kilometers to the west of the city of Mosul, and close to the Mt. Sinjar. The Yazidis have been persecuted throughout history because of their religion and their nationality.

The latest massacre on August 3 was the most brutal attack on the Yazidis in their recent history to wipe out the entire population and to forcibly convert the survivors to Islam. On this day, the Islamic State terrorists, equipped with heavy weapons captured from the Iraqi Army in Mosul two months earlier, commenced their onslaught and extermination on this peaceful district of Sinjar. Thousands of Yazidis were killed and buried in mass graves. Thousands among women and children were taken as prisoners. Those who managed to survive took refuge in Mt. Sinjar or fled to Syria or the Kurdistan region. A total number of 6,417 people, among them, 3,387 were women, 600 children were captured and were taken to Mosul and Syria. They were subjected to the most inhumane and cruelest treatment by the IS jihadists. The women and young girls were subjected to physical and sexual violence, including systematic rape and sex slaving.

The Kurdistan Regional Government commenced a concentrated effort to locate and rescue the prisoners. It has, with the help of others, managed to rescue 3,092 people out of total abductees of Yazidis. A total of 46 mass graves have so far been discovered, in which 1,724 bodies were found and reburied. To this day, more than 5,000 people are missing.

Sinjar was liberated in two stages. The last offensive by the Peshmerga force on November 15, 2015 defeated Islamic State, and liberated the town. The offensive by the Islamic State and the subsequent military operations led to the destruction of more than 85% of the town. The majority of the people have not been able to return to their homes, due to the slow progress in the reconstruction process.

The people of Sinjar desire a decent and peaceful life. The international community can play an important role in assisting the Yazidi people by ensuring that the genocide of

August 2014 will never be repeated. I'm providing direct support for the reconstruction of this beautiful and historically-rooted district. It is needless to say that the ultimate salvation and permanent end to this historical persecution and operation of the people of Kurdistan, including the Yazidis, are achieved through the establishment of an independent state. Realizing this task, and learning from our tragic history, the political leadership of Kurdistan has decided to organize a referendum in Iraqi Kurdistan on September 25, 2017. This referendum will enable people to make a wise and conscious decision about their region.

We hope that the distinguished participants of this Mayors for Peace conference in Nagasaki, as a contribution to the world peace, support the people of Kurdistan and understand the legitimate quest for peace and safety. Thank you very much.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. This was a statement from a representative from Iraq. Each region has their own important issues. As we see the increase of membership, together, with global efforts, we also have another pillar of activities led by the Lead Cities in each region. And this concludes the time for the comments.

Adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons:

Chairperson

Next is the adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal. Please refer to the Nagasaki Appeal that has been distributed to you. Yesterday, we had the drafting committee to come up with this draft proposal of Nagasaki Appeal. In Session I, we decided on the action plan, and as part of the action plan, we say that we are going to make efforts to ask for the early entry into effect of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. So, we propose to adopt this Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons. And this draft also requires your adoption. So, Mayor Matsui is going to read the Nagasaki Appeal.

Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

Let me read out the Nagasaki Appeal.

“The Nagasaki Appeal

For the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons and Lasting World Peace

We, the representatives of 7,417 cities from 162 countries and regions around the world, have met at the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki and engaged in active discussions on the theme “Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons – What We Can Do Toward 2020.”

In August 1945, atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The fierce heat rays, blast and radiation instantly leveled buildings and turned the cities into burnt-out ruins, cruelly killing more than 210,000 residents, including women, children and the elderly. The *hibakusha*, many of whom only narrowly survived, have witnessed many terrible situations where people were deprived of human dignity. They have survived for 72 years with physical and emotional wounds that can never be healed. While suffering from cancer and other diseases caused by radiation, the *hibakusha* have continued to appeal to the world for the abolition of these inhumane weapons, driven by their strong and almost life-shortening determination that no one else should ever again suffer as they have.

Yet, there still remain nearly 15,000 nuclear weapons on our planet, and massive budgets have been allocated to programs aimed at modernizing them. In addition, the threat of nuclear weapon use is increasing in various parts of the world, such as Northeast Asia, Europe, South Asia and the Middle East. Furthermore, the unintended or accidental use of nuclear weapons and the risk of nuclear terrorist attacks cannot be ignored.

Based on the 2020 Vision (Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons), Mayors for Peace has been engaged in diverse activities in partnership with civil society, NGOs and others, aimed at the urgently needed realization of a world without nuclear weapons. These activities include signature-collecting for petitions that call for the early realization of a nuclear weapons convention and appeals for its implementation at international conferences.

This summer, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted. We sincerely welcome the enactment of this treaty, the first international law that explicitly bans nuclear weapons. This historic advancement toward nuclear disarmament won the approval of the majority of UN member states, and demonstrates to the international community that the slogan “Nagasaki must be the last atomic-bombed city,” as the *hibakusha* have continued to pronounce at every opportunity, is a common desire that represents the will of all humankind. Also, the member cities of Mayors for Peace have realized that, even though a desire for peace expressed by one city may constitute a small voice, such voices together can be a driving force in the world if we cooperate and never give up on our goals. We have also been convinced that we are on the right path with our activities.

With this pride in our hearts, Mayors for Peace is determined to push forward the following actions.

Aiming at the early implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Mayors for Peace will make efforts to make this treaty more effective by further strengthening collaboration among the *hibakusha*, civil society and treaty-leading nations that have served as a driving force in the adoption of the treaty, and all member cities will strongly urge their national governments to adopt it. In particular, we will strongly urge the governments of nuclear-armed states and those under the nuclear umbrella to do so.

Mayors for Peace represents more than one billion residents of the member cities, and has worked for the elimination of nuclear weapons and the promotion of peace. Yet beyond nuclear weapons, regional challenges such as chemical weapons, armed conflicts, refugee crises, famine, poverty, discrimination, violence, and environmental destruction and, more recently, terrorist attacks have emerged. To these ends, we support concrete actions to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including those pertaining peace, cities, and education. In addition, we will further increase the number of member cities and actively work on strengthening and deepening regional networks in order to promote humanitarian activities, especially

addressing regional challenges to ensure safety and welfare in civil society.

Mayors for Peace will work towards creating a culture of peace in order to fundamentally address the various problems standing in the way of peace. On that account, we recognize the significance of peace education to pass on war experiences, with a child and youth perspective, to future generations. The member cities of Mayors for Peace are committed to design and promote actions to advance peace education. By participating in the Mayors for Peace network, cities can put into practice the culture of peace in implementing local policies.

Peace is a desire shared by all humankind. We must pursue peace based on human security, in which all individuals respect and trust each other as world citizens by overcoming the divisions of nationality, race and religion, to consider safety as a common concern of all people. This is the path to realizing a world without nuclear weapons. Mayors for Peace will concentrate its efforts on pursuing this long and difficult path, with a strong determination to attain these goals, in close cooperation with all like-minded individuals, groups and nations.

Mayors for Peace strongly calls on the United Nations and all governments to take the following actions:

1. Observe the NPT regime and support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

- Steadily and sincerely promote nuclear disarmament in accordance with the NPT regime so that nuclear weapons will never be used again, listen to the strong voices of civil society, the voices of those who have set the course for the successful adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and sign and ratify the treaty leading to its early entry into force.
- Reaffirm that this treaty is a significant step forward in the pursuit of a future comprehensive nuclear weapons convention achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. Make efforts to address global issues that deprive human beings of dignity.

- Make sincere and prompt efforts to address global issues that deprive human beings of dignity, such as nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, conflicts, refugee crises, famine, poverty, discrimination, violence, environmental destruction and terrorism.
3. 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.
- Call on representatives from governments and international agencies to visit the atomic-bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, so that the inhumanity of nuclear weapons can be imprinted firmly in their hearts after learning of the reality of the bombings. As a result of such visits, they will better appreciate the need to abolish such weapons as soon as possible. Provide full support to activities promoting the preservation of war experiences, atomic bomb exhibitions and peace research and education programs to be held in the cities, so that the citizens of those cities can widely share the horrors of war and civil conflicts in various parts of world.

Addressing the above, at the 9th General Conference, Mayors for Peace adopted the Action Plan for the period of 2017 to 2020. We hereby pledge to make every endeavor to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date and aim for lasting peace in the world.

August 10, 2017

Nagasaki, Japan

The 9th General Conference for Mayors for Peace”

Thank you.

Chairperson

Thank you very much. President Matsui read through the Nagasaki Appeal. Any questions from the participants? If not, I would like to ask you, those in favor of adopting this appeal as it is?

(Applause)

Thank you very much.

Now, I would like to read out the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons.

“Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons

“We call on the cities around the world to unite in cross-border cooperation to pave the way towards the abolition of nuclear weapons.”

This call made by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki led to the establishment of “Mayors for Peace.” Since then, we have appealed for the establishment of a legal framework to prohibit nuclear weapons as we believed it to be essential in achieving their abolition.

On July 7, 2017, these efforts bore fruit. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which explicitly bans nuclear weapons, was adopted at United Nations Headquarters by 122 nations, a figure representing 60 percent of all United Nations’ member states. This was made possible by the heartfelt appeal by the hibakusha and like-minded people that “nuclear weapons should be abolished,” an appeal that gained worldwide support and moved the nations. Mayors for Peace with 7,417 member cities from 162 countries and regions, wholeheartedly welcomes the adoption of this treaty.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors of Peace was held after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. At the General Conference, we the members of Mayors for Peace, renewed our determination to strive for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons.

“Let Nagasaki be the last atomic-bombed site in the world.”

Here in Nagasaki, we Mayors for Peace affirmed that these words are the common wish

and will of civil society and resolved our commitment to perpetuate these words for all time.

Mayors for Peace hereby resolves to urge all nations, including the nuclear-armed states, to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and bring it into effect at the earliest possible date.

August 10, 2017

Nagasaki City, Japan”

Now, any questions about this special resolution? It seems none, so those in favor of adopting this special resolution as it is?

(Applause)

Thank you very much for your support and approval. As the outcome of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, we have thus adopted the Nagasaki Appeal and the special resolution. These documents are going to be distributed to all member cities of our organization, to UN and other international organizations and NGOs concerned. This concludes Session V. We are a little behind the schedule. I apologize for the poor management of the session. I thank you very much for your kind cooperation for Session V. Thank you very much.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Closing Ceremony

August 10 (Thu), 2017 12:15-12:45

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

Chorus Performance:

**Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education,
Nagasaki University**

Messages and Addresses:

Eddy Newman

Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK

Tomihisa Taue

Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

Kazumi Matsui

President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

Closing Ceremony

MC

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you very much for waiting. Let us now commence the closing ceremony. Before the closing ceremony, we would like to invite elementary school children from the Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Nagasaki University to sing songs.

Chorus Performance: Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Nagasaki University

(Performance)

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. It was *A Thousand Paper Cranes*. Every year on August 9, this song is sung at the Peace Ceremony. Every month on the 9th, at 11:02, when the A-bomb was dropped, there would be the broadcasting of this song. There is the aspiration for peace in each one of the paper cranes. We shall continue to sing this song. The next song is titled, *Let's Shake Hands*. We would like to be closer to you. While we are singing song, we are going to give you a present. Let's shake hands!

(Performance)

We shall see you again. Thank you very much.

MC

Thank you very much. Those were the children from the Elementary School Attached to the Faculty of Education, Nagasaki University. Thank you for your wonderful choruses.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, we would like to commence the closing ceremony of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. On behalf of the participants, we would like to invite Lord Mayor of Manchester, Mr. Eddy Newman to address to us.

Address by the Representative of Participants:

Mr. Eddy Newman, Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK

Konnichiwa. Mayor Matsui, Mayor Taue, Secretary General Komizo, fellow mayors,

ladies and gentlemen. First thing I want to say was not in my written speech. That was such a wonderful performance from the children there. There is the saying common to all of us, I think, that children are the future. I'm sure that the future of Nagasaki is assured with the children like that.

I am delighted to be able to speak to you today in the closing ceremony of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, here in the beautiful city of Nagasaki. I have listened carefully to all the sessions of the conference and can see the energy, determination and unity that exists in our large organization committed to peace and a world free of nuclear weapons.

This is my first visit to Japan and I have been very impressed with the organization of all of the events. It was a great honor to represent Manchester at the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Ceremonies. I found them to be truly respectful and dignified events commemorating those who had died in the terrible attacks of August 6 and August 9, 1945. It is so important to also remember those whose health is still affected by the atomic weapon attacks and nuclear weapon test programs and to call for a different way of doing things—a peaceful way of cooperation, solidarity, mutual respect and understanding. That is why I came into politics and I am sure that this is also why you are here today.

In November 1980, 37 years ago, Manchester was one of the first local councils to declare itself a Nuclear Free Zone. I am proud that—as a young Councillor then—I was involved in putting forward that policy.

This year, on May 22 at around 10.30pm in my city of Manchester, thousands of excited children and their parents were leaving Manchester Arena Concert Hall after a wonderful concert by the American singer Ariana Grande. Seconds later a suicide bomber exploded a device near the entrance of the Arena, which adjoins one of Manchester's main railway stations. Many received terrible injuries and sadly 22 people, including children and young people, were killed in this vile act of terrorism. My city, like many other cities around the world who have been affected by such incidents, was shocked to the core.

In coming here to Hiroshima and Nagasaki I have been touched by the spirit of the hibakusha, the survivors of the bomb. Their spirit of solidarity, of reconciliation, of caring for each other. Such a spirit has also come from Manchester after this terrible incident. I was honored to lead a vigil the day after the attack outside Manchester Town Hall in front of tens of thousands of people and I have been present at many other similar events. There has been a great sense of solidarity, love, grief and disbelief, but a common and joint desire that this incident would not divide our city.

Manchester is a very diverse city made up of people from many different ethnic origins. It is a very tolerant city where mutual respect remains the dominant theme. It is a true city of peace. The days and weeks after this attack have seen our city come together like never before, and I am sure that this will continue.

Through Mayors for Peace, Manchester has worked for a more peaceful world free of nuclear weapons. Now, more than ever, we will work for a world where mutual respect, co-operation, solidarity, and peace prevail, and we hope you will all continue to join with us in that challenge. Mayors for Peace can be a beacon for peace to the communities we represent. It has played such an important role this year in achieving the historic Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty, and now our challenge is to follow this up by persuading nuclear weapon states like the United Kingdom, my own country, to implement a policy of multilateral nuclear disarmament.

I would like to thank the organizers of this conference in Nagasaki for all their hard work in bringing us all together. I would like to thank the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Mayors for Peace Secretary General and the wider Secretariat and my fellow Executive Members for the very strong and good leadership they provide to our organization. I welcome the 'Nagasaki Declaration' that we have just agreed as our call to the world to change and to embrace peace. Let us all do that together in the spirit of solidarity that is at the heart of Mayors for Peace, is at the heart of the cities of Nagasaki and Hiroshima as I've seen this week, is at the heart of the city of Manchester and all your own towns and cities. No one wants war, people want peace. Let us unleash the positive spirit of the hibakusha and the spirit of all those who campaign for peace.

Thank you, on behalf of the all the participants, for your attendance and I wish you well as you send this message back home to your families, your cities and your countries. Thank you.

MC

Thank you very much, Lord Mayor Eddy Newman.

Mayor of Nagasaki, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mr. Tomihisa Taue is going to address you.

Closing Remarks:

Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

We are now concluding the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, and as we just heard from the Lord Mayor of Manchester, I agree with him about the wonderful performance by the children. Yesterday, at the Peace Ceremony, we heard children who joined us for the performance of songs as we enjoyed today. The stories are quite serious, talking about the tragedy, making us feel very low and down. And the children's song and voices can purify our distress in our heart. I believe that children have a special power to encourage us to keep on working toward our aims.

We had four days for the general conference. I can say that we had a wonderful conference, rich in content, I would like to express my thanks to all the member cities, the three moderators, and all the supporting organizations and their staff. Thank you very much. Please accept my deep feeling of thanks.

We were able to adopt the special resolution. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons is a treaty that illegalize nuclear weapons, and this is one of the positive outcomes of the efforts made by Mayors for Peace. This was possible because of the strong activities by the A-bomb survivors or hibakusha. Now that the treaty is successfully adopted, we could confirm that the role we have taken so far was in the right direction.

This general conference was able to adopt the special resolution and I believe this is one

of the important outcomes of our conference. We were also able to adopt the Nagasaki Appeal. We have more than 7,400 cities as members of Mayors for Peace. We have formed a very big network, and as we see this expansion of the network, we need to incorporate new types of activities. Our common and ultimate goal is the total elimination of nuclear weapons. In addition to that, creation of culture of peace and engagement in peace education is also mentioned in the Nagasaki Appeal. And also for each region, we decided to start tackling with regional issues as we stated in the Nagasaki Appeal. The Nagasaki Appeal clearly shows us the future direction of the activities of our organization. In 2020 and beyond 2020, what are we going to do? We need to start discussion about the future vision. I believe that the Nagasaki Appeal gives us wonderful suggestion about our future activities. We also adopted the Action Plan for 2017 to 2020. Again, the action plan is quite rich in content, and we have been collaborating and we have never given up. Small voices can be united into a larger voice, which clearly show that small pieces of voice are actually the biggest voice of humanity.

We were able to prepare the program to implement the action plan for the coming three years. The coming three years is quite important. Vision 2020 has been the target for us. But what is going to be our vision beyond 2020? I think we are at the important time where we need a serious discussion. We had a wonderful face-to-face talk with each other, had discussions, and deepened our friendship. I believe that we were able to strengthen the network of Mayors for Peace. Let us seek for another opportunity so that we can further deepen our friendship and have more discussion which will enlarge the many small voices. In the 9th General Conference, I was able to conclude with a wonderful outcome. I am proud of being a member of this wonderful team, and by taking one step at one time, let us continue walking with confidence in what we are doing. I would like to renew my thanks to all of you who made this general conference to be held in a successful manner. Thank you very much.

MC

In closing, on behalf of the organizer, President of Mayors for Peace, Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima gives us a closing address.

Closing Remarks:

Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

In closing, please allow me to say a few words as the President of Mayors for Peace. I would like to be brief. Just a minute ago, we adopted the Nagasaki Appeal as the outcome of this general conference. We are about to end this conference, going over for three days. I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to the member cities, governments, participants from NGOs, and all the staff and volunteers who have supported this conference. My deepest thanks go to all of you.

In this conference, we prepared a new action plan for the target year of 2020, and Nagasaki Appeal. Now is time for us to work together with all of you to achieve an early joining of all the states to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, along with our action plan, and also to work hard for the resolution of diverse issues faced by regions. Needless to say, our activities require partnership and collaboration with the citizens, as many citizens as possible, and working together with a wide range of entities and players, including the United Nations, national governments and NGOs. I would like to continue to ask for your kind understanding and cooperation.

The next general conference is going to be hosted in 2020 in Hiroshima. By that time, let us all make further efforts to make a sure step forward toward a peaceful world without nuclear weapons. Thank you very much once again. I would like to thank you once again for your very kind cooperation. This concludes my speech. I would like to see all of you again. Thank you.

MC

Now, as the finale of this general conference, municipal leaders and children are asked to sing together a song. Mayors, would you please come to the stage and join the children in singing this song *It's A Small World?*

(Performance)

Thank you very much. Three years from today in 2020, the 10th General Conference of Mayors for Peace will be hosted by the City of Hiroshima. To pass on the Nagasaki's

message, wishing for a lasting world peace, one thousand paper cranes made by the pupils of the elementary school are passed on to Hiroshima City. Members of the choir, would you please hand over the one thousand paper cranes to the mayor of Hiroshima?

Please give them a big hand of applause with our sincere wish for realizing a lasting world peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. Thank you very much for your very kind participation in the four-day period. Thank you.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Press Conference

August 10 (Thu), 2017 13:00-13:45

Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

[Executive Cities of Mayors for Peace]

President:

Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

Vide Presidents:

Tomihisa Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Nkenfack, Mayor of Fongo-Tongo, Cameroon

Michel Cibot, Honorary City Manager of Malakoff, France

Eddy Newman, Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK

Jef Verschoore, Deputy Mayor of Ypres, Belgium

Jasminka Bajlo, Counselor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia

Josep Mayoral, Mayor of Granollers, Spain

Khder Kareem, Mayor of Halabja, Iraq

Executive:

Adrian Glamorgan, Mayors for Peace Working Group, Fremantle,
Australia

MC

Let's start the press conference.

Moderator: Mr. Mizuta, Director of the Public Relations Section, Nagasaki City, Japan

We would like to now start the press conference. I am acting as the moderator of this session. My name is Mizuta, Director of the Public Relations Section of Nagasaki City. In this press conference, we have invited the Executive City members who were the participants of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. Press Conference lasts for 45 minutes. First, there will be the presentation and the explanation on the Nagasaki Appeal as well as the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons, followed by the impressions by each Executive City representative. The question and answer will follow. First, Mayor Matsui, please give the summary of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace.

Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan

In this very place of Nagasaki, we discussed about creating a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020. For four days in the past, we had thorough discussions together with the members of Mayors for Peace. Through the course of the discussion, various practices and ideas were presented. Also, we renewed our determination for peace at this meeting. Especially on July 7, we have been advocating for a Ban Treaty together with hibakusha, and this was finally adopted. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons totally matches with the 2020 Vision of Mayors for Peace: creating a nuclear-free world. I believe this is going to be a critical step forward. Therefore, as Mayors for Peace, we will try to identify the future challenges that is the total elimination of nuclear weapons. That has to be taken as the consensus of civil society. To the nuclear-weapon nations, they have to negotiate for disarmament in a sincere manner, and not only the United Nations but also to all the governments, we would like to ask them to participate so that we will be able to have the early bringing into effect of the Treaty. We have to create such environment for preparations. I believe this is going to be the challenge for us, Mayors for Peace.

As Mayors for Peace, based on those problems and issues in front of us, our objective is

to create a lasting world peace, which is more and more increasingly important. As to how we should bring ourselves into the future, we have added one more pillar to the pillar of activities. In the past, we have been focusing only on creating a nuclear-free world as the first pillar, but we added the second pillar to create realization of safe and resilient cities. We thus created Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017- 2020).

In order to realize a world without nuclear weapons, the voices of hibakusha should be shared among countries, not only the nuclear-weapon nations, but also their allies. We hope these countries will participate to realize the early entry into effect of the treaty, and it will become more important for us to continue to place requests to each governments to join the treaty together with our member cities and civil societies.

As for the second pillar, we have added one more activities to realize safe and resilient cities. There, of course, are various issues which hamper us to realize peace, but in order to prevent that from happening, it is necessary to create culture of peace. Terrorism and refugees, those are regional problems, but we need to tackle all those problems under the initiative of Lead Cities, and member cities are going to give further support for such activities. Through the course of those activities, SDGs, advocated by the United Nations, in order to realize this development plan, specific activities needs to be supported by Mayors for Peace. I am pretty sure that we will be able to make a progress by the activities we will be advocating,

But in order to secure that progress, we need to cultivate and foster international public opinion. Especially, it is necessary to enlighten and educate young people, the driving force for the future. Young people should be aware and understand what happened in the past, and try to understand and recognize them, and they will be able to look at the future. Thus, peace education is one of the important tasks we need to tackle in our association. In Session III, we had a discussion on the roles of youth. Together with the mayors of the member cities, there were a lot of discussions among the young people. It was quite buoyant and vibrant. It was well-accepted and I think we had a very good outcome. Very specific proposals were given by the young people in order for the local authorities to put them into practice, I think there should be a lot of experiences, good practices and teaching materials exchanged on the website and other means.

In this general conference, what we have reaffirmed is, Mayors for Peace, with its over 7,400 members from 162 countries, I believe this is the strength which can foster and raise international public opinion. We have to make the best use of such strength that we have. Together with our member cities, based on the action plan we paired, we hope we will be able to steadfastly realize our plan.

Now, in realizing the action plan, there were three discussions: roles of cities, roles of youth, and roles of civil society, NGOs and other organizations. Prof. Suzuki, Prof. Nakamura, and Dr. Tomonaga chaired each session. There was a wrap-up of each session just a few minutes ago.

Just to give you a further summery, I believe peace is the common wishes of everybody in the world. If that is the basic condition, in order to realize peace, what we can count on is the driving force of the young people on whose shoulder our future rests. The activities are based on human security for peace. This matches with the concept of realizing a world without nuclear weapons. The roles to be played by Mayors for Peace is to strengthen its connection with like-minded individuals, organizations and governments, and make our utmost efforts with a strong determination to realize everlasting peace without nuclear weapons. I believe that is the summery of this conference. We were able to reaffirm those voices which were quite significant to us. We are wishing that the member cities will continue with their efforts in further activities. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much.

Next, about the Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons, Mayor Taue, would you like to give us the summary?

Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki, Japan

The Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons is something I would like to cover.

Starting from the Nagasaki Appeal, there are three pillars. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, with the initiatives of Lead Cities to try to solve their regional problems, and also put into practice of peace education and creating culture of peace. This is not only on the initiatives of Mayors for Peace and cities, but I believe those are the common factors of actions we will be taking towards the UN and governments. As for the Ban Treaty, the actions Mayors for Peace will take, is that we would like to appeal for the early bringing into effect of the Treaty. We will deepen our collaboration with hibakusha, civil society, and countries advocating the Treaty, to encourage our respective governments, especially the nuclear-weapon nations and their allies who are under the nuclear umbrella. We will ask the United Nations and all the governments to comply with the NPT, and join the Treaty.

As for the regional issues, in the world, chemical weapons, conflicts, refugees, famine, discrimination, violence, environmental destruction and terrorism, those are the regional problems we come across from day to day. Therefore, as one of the actions of our association, we would like to solve those regional issues by the initiatives of Lead Cities so that we will be able to give further support for the realization of SDG by the United Nations in order to protect the well-beings and happiness of our citizens, we would like to strengthen the regional network while we are working on solving these challenges. To the United Nations and countries, we are asking to call on working further for the sincere efforts to address the global issues.

In order to solve these problems, it is necessary to make efforts to create a culture of peace. Therefore, members of Mayors for Peace, will emphasize on peace education on children and youth, to communicate the importance of peace, and to push actions to implement peace education. By participating in the Mayors for Peace network, each city is able to create an atmosphere where peace should be respected. We will call on the UN and governments to make opportunities for the creation of culture of peace, and to learn, touch upon, and understand the reality of atomic bombings. With those important points, we adopted the action plan from 2017 through 2020. We pledged to make every endeavor to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible day.

Now, about the special resolution, I would like to make a comment on this as well. In this general conference, as you know, that was immediately held after the adoption of the Ban Treaty. And we have adopted the action plan from 2017 to 2020, and this includes the early bringing into effect of the Ban Treaty. Now that we have adopted that, it is necessary to have the voices from the civil society. Therefore, in the 9th General Conference, we have come up with the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons. I have made such proposal and I got unanimous support. Thus we adopted the special resolution. I believe this is going to be one step further to put the treaty into practice. Including the nuclear-weapon nations, we appeal and call on for them to join the treaty, to bring into effect of the treaty. That's all. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. We would like to ask each participant to give us their impression. The time limitation is one minute. Mayor of Hiroshima, would you like to start, saying your impression?

Mr. Kazumi Matsui

You can pass me. Because of the time, you can pass me.

Moderator

Mayor of Fongo-Tongo, would you like to give your impression?

Mr. Nkenfack, Mayor of Fongo-Tongo, Cameroon

Thank you very much. At the risk of repeating myself, I have to thank you all again. Thank you very much for your hospitality in Nagasaki and Hiroshima. I would like to express my appreciation. Yesterday, we adopted the appeal. We are very much satisfied with this appeal. When I go back to our city, we shall continue to endeavor further, and increase the membership of Mayors for Peace. We do have the action plan, we shall do the appeal in the university, together with young students. With many countries in Africa, we shall explain what we have adopted as Nagasaki Appeal. We shall make a presentation on the Nagasaki Appeal, and hope the expansion of Mayors for Peace so that we will be able to create peace in the world. We hope that we will be able to create

prosperity. If there is peace, we will be able to see development. We are very much satisfied. Not only for the citizens in Cameroon, but also throughout Africa, these are common issues to all the countries in Africa. Mayors of the cities of Africa, we just hope that they can participate in Mayors for Peace. If that happens, this is going to be a big organization. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Next, Hannover, please.

Mr. Thomas Hermann, Deputy Mayor of Hannover, Germany

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to thank the secretariat and the host city of Nagasaki for managing this conference. We had very good discussions about the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and other global aims and global issues. I was deeply impressed by the two Peace Ceremonies, first in our sister city Hiroshima, and then in Nagasaki yesterday. Those were the ceremonies with a high level of dignity, and I was also impressed by the speech of hibakusha. When I go back to Germany, to Hannover in Europe, with the energy to realize the aims of new action plan, which is very good and the goal is specified. It will be the challenges we have in the next few years. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Next, Halabja City, please.

Mr. Khder Kareem, Mayor of Halabja, Iraq

Thank you very much for the secretariat and the mayors of Nagasaki and Hiroshima for organizing this conference again. We are always on the conference, talking about atomic bombs, but especially the Middle East, in the region of Syria and Kurdistan, chemical bombs are still being used. There are mass destructions, and they are killings, especially children and women are affected with these things. Time is limited, so I don't want to take so long time. I hope that we will succeed, and this conference was a success. And I would like to invite you for the anniversary of Halabja, to hold the Executive Committee Conference in Halabja in 2019. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Granollers, please.

Ms. Carme Barbany, City of Granollers, Spain

Good afternoon. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. There are four representatives from Spain. One is representing Barcelona, and another is representing the federation. I would like to express my deepest thanks to you all. We had wonderful welcome, and this has been wonderfully operated conference. I would like to express my thanks to all of you who have supported this conference. I attended the Peace Ceremony both in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and I was very much impressed, especially by the speeches given by hibakusha and activities conducted in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I was deeply impressed. The advancement of the activities was quite satisfactory for us, so together with you, we have been working, and that is a great honor and I'm very happy that we will keep on working with you. Lead City, or other federation of the cities of Spain, we would like to make efforts to invite new members to this organization. And also, we need to strengthen our ties. We hope to promote collaboration with other organizations. Lastly, for the implementation toward SDGs, I think we need to collaborate. In Spain, member cities of Spain are going to work hard in order to implement the action plan. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Biograd na Moru, please.

Ms. Jasminka Bajlo, Counselor of Biograd na Moru, Croatia

The special thanks to Mayor Taue, for the excellent organization of all these events, and on this 9th General Conference, this is the third general conference that Biograd has participated in. In my opinion, among these three, this is the best one. Why is it the best one? I have to also say my congratulations to the staff of Mayors for Peace and to the Secretary General and to his staff for a magnificent, I must say, action plan. What really left to the best, I can say, the best experience here was the experience with the youth. Maybe it's because years ago I used to work with children, and I worked with elementary school children, high school and university, I used to teach. This brought me back to the early stage, especially yesterday working on that session with youth. This is

something we have to emphasize that peace education must go through the young. The youth is our future. It just filled my heart to see these young people so enthusiastic, it's unbelievable how enthusiastic they are. And the first impression I got this enthusiasm is three years ago when I was accompanying Mayor Matsui and delegation in New York. When we visited the high school in New York with high school students from Hiroshima to the high school in New York, and the enthusiasm of the high school students from Hiroshima showed. All the happenings, atomic bombings, has left a special impression. So now it's been connected with yesterday, working with those young children. And my congratulations. You Japanese have beautiful youth and you must be very proud of your children. I hope that they will be an example to the others. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Malakoff, please.

Mr. Michel Cibot, Honorary City Manager of Malakoff, France

Thank you very much. I would like to repeat the appreciations expressed by other fellow mayors. I would like to express my thanks to the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the secretariat. This is my ninth time to attend the general conference. Because I witnessed changes, I'm very happy. I have no regret. All the things that took place in the past are complimenting each other. In this conference, violence in Africa or in the US or in other regions, we have discussed the issue of violence. According to the action plan, we have decided to do something about understanding how violence is related to other issues. And we need to think about how nuclear weapons, the biggest level of violence, can affect us. Our country is a nuclear-weapon state. Therefore in France, actually, it's not so easy to expand the network of Mayors for Peace, but we have many tools available. So we are going to have discussions, hoping that France, in the future, will join the Ban Treaty, supported by 122 countries just recently.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Next, Manchester, please

Mr. Eddy Newman, Lord Mayor of Manchester, UK

Thank you very much. I won't repeat the thanks to mayors and the secretariat and everything, I made my speech just a few minutes ago, but please take that as said. As the City of Manchester that's been hit recently by terrorism, I was pleased that we have agreed, as Mayors for Peace, in our action plan to have the secondary aim of "safe and resilient cities" that will deal with issues like terrorism as well as many other issues that affect the balance on the well-being of people of our cities. But clearly, the primary aim of Mayors for Peace is to work for a nuclear-weapon-free world and the lasting world peace. And I think that the experiences of, I've come to Japan for the first time this week, I've had a long history of, in my own country and in my city, working for peace and against nuclear weapons, but it's something different to come to Hiroshima and Nagasaki where the people suffered in a terrible way. The consequences of the atomic bomb attacks. We listening to hibakusha, brings home even in more detail, not numbers of the people that were killed and affected terribly in this way. These two cities are also the actual facts on people's lives and the loss of their family members, the illness is caused by radiation and so forth, and that gets through to us in a very strong way, and the brave hibakusha who obviously are now advanced age, but still, realize the importance of explaining the stories what happened to them and their families and their community, and that made a huge impression, as did the two ceremonies. I just finish by saying that we know that nuclear weapons can destroy the world and destroy humanity. There are so many nuclear weapons now, they are so much more powerful. Terrible weapons that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, we just have to do everything possible to work between our cities and in our communities to organize campaign and pressure our governments and international community to get rid of nuclear weapons once and for all. That is the way to save humanity and to have a bright future for the children that we saw earlier and that we heard from yesterday. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Ypres, please.

Mr. Jeff Velshore, Deputy Mayor of Ypres, Belgium

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My native language is Dutch, but I'm afraid there is no interpreter of Dutch, so I will do it in English. First of all, I will subscribe what has been already said by the colleagues here on the table, concerning the thanks to

the organization and to the hospitality we have received here in this beautiful city. Also, I was very impressed by the very respectful and beautiful ceremonies in Hiroshima and in Nagasaki, and by the speeches of hibakusha. I was also impressed by the speeches of the President and the Vice President, mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the speeches they had on both ceremonies. Yesterday we heard the local mayor sending out a message to the government and there was also the prime minister. We had a very beautiful concert. We are the city of peace in Belgium. We suffered a lot also in the First World War. I think, if I may use the expression, that we have got a lot of ammunition to work even harder for being a beacon of peace in our country and in our region. We already have a peace office, we even have a peace prize, but not so known as the Nobel Peace Prize. I think we heard a lot of ideas to go further. I wish to thank also the colleagues in the Executive Committee for all the good reflections they have brought us during these four days in this 9th General Conference. It's the first visit to Japan for me also, and I must say in this five days here, I only met with very friendly, very positive and very enthusiastic people. I think I'm falling in love with this country. Thank you very much.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now Fremantle, please

Mr. Adrian Glamorgan, Mayors for Peace Working Group, Fremantle, Australia

Thank you very much for your beautiful hosting of a sensitive ceremony here in Nagasaki and Hiroshima. At the basis of everything that you do, is love and concern for the hibakusha, and an eye to the future of humanity. It's a big weight that you carry. But you carry it with great dignity and you signal to the world that nothing could be more pressing than removing weapons of mass destruction at the earliest. And with that in mind, I commend all that has been done at this conference to remind the world of its obligation to current generations, to future generations, but also, out of respect for the hibakusha who have suffered and who live now with the hope to perform their duty and rid the world of nuclear weapons. I say from Fremantle, which is long way away from the rest of the world, but no one is safe from nuclear weapons or its consequences, and that we must swiftly act. But I would also say that in meeting Mayors for Peace here, each one of them has a history that has dealt with violence in their own community,

violence harm or hurt, and together that community has taught itself and worked with each other to create peace within the community. These mayors, I commend to you. They are practical, realistic people who showed that there are practical measures to build peace and change in an attitude of mind. So I'll leave Nagasaki with great hope and energy, and hope that you will enquire of each of these cities, discover their own history, and their own transformation of conflict into a world of hope. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much. Now I'd like to open the press for your questions. When you raise your question, please state your company's name and to whom you would like to address your question. Already we are past the time, and actually, the mayors and representatives have to move, so I would like to take questions or comments from two companies. Please raise your hand.

Question 1:

Mr. Yamaguchi, The Nagasaki Shimbun

Nagasaki Shimbun newspaper, my name is Yamaguchi. About the action plan, I have two questions. One is to President Matsui. About the action plan, this was adopted and you have the second pillar, "realization of safe and resilient cities," and adding this pillar is leading to the "realization of a world without nuclear weapons," the first pillar. Could you once again explain the connection between the two pillars?

Mr. Kazumi Matsui

Thank you very much. Eradication of nuclear weapons, yes, that is the primary and direct goal, but that leads to our ultimate goal of realizing a lasting world peace where people have to be assured of their safety and well-being. As of today, Hiroshima and Nagasaki's efforts toward nuclear weapons eradication have been supported by all of those member cities of our organization. And we have been able to see the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Of course, we have to increase the number of those states which join the treaty. That's the challenge. On the other hand, each city has its own regional issues. In trying to realize a lasting world peace, regional issues have to be tackled with in parallel with efforts for nuclear weapon abolition's realization. And tackling these pillars together, we believe we are able to energize us

toward the achievement of the ultimate goal of lasting world peace. As we have continued our discussion in the past conferences, we had been discussing nuclear weapons eradication, but at the same time, we need to actually work on the regional issues, safe and resilient cities, and that has been the opinion expressed so far, and that is why we adopted the second pillar.

Question 2:

Mr. Yamaguchi

In relation to that question, I have a question to Mr. Michel Cibot. For many years, you have been participating in the general conference of Mayors for Peace, and besides the nuclear weapons abolition, how to do with other regional issues, I understand, has been discussed within the general conferences. But today, now, the second pillar was added to action plan. What do you think is the reason why this second pillar is now added?

Mr. Michel Cibot

Well, perhaps the process was systematic, without any problems or challenges. The themes we had dealt with have changed to some extent over the years. We, for instance, have adopted more advanced themes that are ahead of the rest of the world. By being perseverant, we will be able to get the consensus of many others. For instance, I have a friend from Italy, here in this hall, and when the time passes, as we see from the incident of Galileo, when the time passes, we know what is true. Of course I am old enough to know all of those things. French cities have worked hard over the years. Many cities have worked as members of Mayors for Peace, and also they have worked upon in collaboration of their citizens, and that is why we are able to convince ourselves that we can put this second pillar, and we believe that the second pillar will invite many other like-minded cities and colleagues.

Moderator

Any other questions or comments? Please.

Question 3:

Mr. Okada, The Asahi Shimbun

Asahi Shimbun newspaper, my name is Okada. My question is related to the previous question. Terrorism, poverty and refugee crises are added as a new pillar in your action plan. I think that is what was decided in the next action plan. All of you come from different cities and different countries, and some have already touched upon this point, but in your cities or in your regions, what challenges are you faced with? Especially among the second new pillar, what kind of regional or city issues are you faced with? And how would you like to solve these issues? If possible, I would like to ask each one of you, but if there is anyone who would like to answer this question, please. Should I mention to whom I would like to address this question? Well then, who should I pick up? I don't have a particular preference. Mayor of Fongo-Tongo, there was a reference to the social economic development, so including that, could you respond to my question?

Mr. Nkenfack

Africa is a vast continent. I am from Cameroon. It's one part of one region in a big continent of Africa, but Africa is such a big continent, consisting by sub-regions, but we have a problem of terrorism, Boko Haram, the terrorist group. They are killing people in many countries. This is not a formal, declared war, but an informal terrorist activity. We have accumulated various experiences so far, and we have seen a lot here in Japan, and we would like to link such experiences as a ray of hope and when we return our country, we would like to continue to work, by holding seminars and meetings, especially to the young people, this is what I would like to work upon. Adults understand the evil of terrorist groups, but that is not the case for the young people. They do not really understand the evil nature of terrorist groups. They might be misled and they might be recruited to a terrorist group, so we need to educate them so that they will not be misled or deceived. In Cameroon, giving drugs or narcotics to young people, and giving them ammunition and weapons for fighting, and they come to places like such a convention place and they conduct a suicidal bombing. So we need to educate them so that they will not die or kill themselves without a cause. What was satisfactory to me in this conference is that there were so many young people, students, in this conference. They are engaged in the process of peace, understanding peace. This will spread peace in the world. I would like to use this experience. In Africa, by holding seminars in Africa, and

if necessary, please invite me to such a seminar in Africa, and please share your experiences with the young people in Africa.

I am so thankful to all of you, and thank you very much for giving me this chance again to take the floor. Peace can't be bought with any money, and development can be achieved only when the peace prevails. So, your work toward peace, I think, can be spread to the rest of the world. Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and what happened in those two cities should never be repeated. Today, terrorists are using all kinds of weapons, and which are not necessary. We hope to see peace in the world. Irrespective of the colors of skins, we are all brothers and sisters, and we need to reconfirm this fact. Thank you.

Moderator

Thank you very much for your response. Unfortunately, the time is very limited. Mayor Matsui has to attend to another business and he has to return to Hiroshima. So he is going to be excused. Other executives, they can answer your questions if there are further questions. Any further questions from the press? There seems to be none, so I call this is the end of the press conference. Thank you very much.