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:
Hiromichi Umebayashi  
Special Advisor, Peace Depot Inc., Japan
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 Suginami 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 member 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 c 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 safely 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.