

NGO Presentations, the Tenth NPT Review Conference
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From Nagasaki, where an atomic bomb exploded over the city 77 years ago, I would like to introduce a poem. It was written by a 17 year-old girl who lost her family and suffered serious injuries in the atomic bombing.

Please close your eyes and listen.

*Thousands of arms and legs were torn off
Intestines dropping out
Maggots swarming in bodies,
Those still breathing searched for loved ones
And cremated the dead body they found.
The smoke of burning corpses rose into the sky
And innocent blood stained the water of Urakami River.*

Leaving only keloid scars, the war finally came to an end.

*But
My mother and father are gone.
My brothers and sisters will never return.*

*People are weak and quick to forget;
They repeat the same mistakes again and again.*

*But
This one thing must never be forgotten.
This one thing must never be repeated
Under any circumstances whatsoever...*

Imagine how much people have suffered because of nuclear weapons. Consider that tragedies such as this can happen to anyone as long as nuclear weapons exist.

Amid mounting concerns regarding nuclear weapons, the world is watching to see how the NPT Review Conference will fulfill its responsibility to safeguard the present and future of humanity.

I sincerely hope that the States Parties will conduct thorough discussion focused on “human security of humanity,” and reach consensus on a final document that will encourage substantive progress in nuclear disarmament.

Thank you for your kind attention.