



New Japan Women's
Association

Japanese Women Today

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NJWA President Kasai delivered a statement at the UN Conference (full text on the reverse side)

Nuclear Weapons Are Categorically Banned

On July 7, the United Conference adopted a historic treaty banning nuclear weapons. The New Japan Women's Association issued a statement (see the reverse side), welcoming the adoption of the treaty as the fruit of collective effort of the Hibakusha, civil society organizations, governments and the UN.

NJWA sent a 9-member delegation led by President Kasai Kimiyo to New York from June 15 to 18 to bring the voice of civil society of the Atomic bombed country supporting the treaty to the Conference where the Japanese government was absent. They had an exchange meeting with US activists, and joined the Women's March to Ban the Bomb and Peace & Planet Forum sharing diverse experiences and views.

During the session, the Hibakusha presented more than 2.96 million signatures to the Conference President Elayne Whyte.

The focus of struggle now is to press the nuclear weapons states and their allies including Japan to join the treaty to achieve a world free of nuclear weapons.



President Kasai giving NJWA's red action bags with paper cranes, Hibakusha's testimonies and newsletters to President Whyte and Nakamitsu Izumi, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

We Made a History! Nuclear Weapons Are Banned! Let Us Press the Governments to Become Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

NEW YORK WOMEN'S MARCH TO BAN THE BOMB



On June 17, amid soaking downpours, about 1000 activists wearing T-shirts with messages, holding signs and banners marched in midtown Manhattan. Chanting "No More Hiroshimas!" "No More Nagasakis!" "What Do We Want?" "Ban the Bomb!" "When?" "Now!" they pushed their way towards the UN building.

NJWA President Kasai Kimiyo (left) walked at the forefront with Wada Masako (center), assistant secretary general of Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (HIDANKYO) and Akibayashi Kozue (right), President of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), organizer of the Women's March to Ban the Bomb.

At the rally at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, women speakers called for convergence of diverse movements to end militarism and greed-driven politics so that we can live in peace with justice. NJWA delegations got on the stage with Kasai as she spoke about women's activism to bring about political changes in Japan (see the speech text on the reverse side).

UN Conference President Elayne Whyte showed up to receive the signatures once again from the Hibakusha honoring their unrelenting effort.



北海道
HOKKAIDO
札幌駅前通りをお散歩パレード。道行く人や車からも激励!

秋 田



AKITA



宮 城
MIYAGI
集会後、被爆者先頭にピースウォーク(国際署名連絡会宮城)



茨 城
IBARAKI
署名する若い人が多く、おりづるつきチラシが好評



千 葉
CHIBA
おりづるやフラカードを手にパレード



群 馬
GUNMA
会議の後、国道交差点でおりづるアクション



大 阪
OSAKA
商店街入り口で連帯アピール



三 重
MIE
おりづるをアレンジして平和行進



神 奈 川
KANAGAWA
「修学旅行で被爆者から話を聞いたと高校生も署名」



KANAGAWA



新 潟
NIIGATA
おりづるの帽子をかぶってアピール



NIIGATA



石 川
ISHIKAWA
被爆者の会長が、おびやかして女性宣伝



ISHIKAWA



東 京
TOKYO
17日、東京・新宿では、「核兵器なくそう! 6.17おりづるパレード」に250人が参加。先頭には26人の被爆者が歩き、大小思いの折り鶴をもった参加者が、クールしながら道沿にアピール! 注目を集めた



福 井
FUKUI
おりづるでつくったタペストリーで世界の行動と連帯



長 野
NAGANO
核兵器も共謀罪もいらないとスタンディング



島 根
SHIMANE
共同で原爆パネル展、原爆タペストリーも展示



鳥 取
TOTORI
折り鶴をつけた帽子をかぶって、鳥取駅前デモ



京 都
KYOTO
祇園階段下で宣伝。英語で訴え外国人観光客も署名



愛 知
AICHI
被爆者団体愛友会とともに「核兵器なくそう」コールと署名行動

JAPAN PEACE WAVE / ORIZURU PARADES & SIGNATURE DRIVE June15-18



長 崎
NAGASAKI
ヒバクシャ署名県民の会で原爆展と署名行動



広 島
HIROSHIMA
商店街から平和公園まで若いママや読者もいっしょにパレード



岐 阜
GIFU
女性行進の横断幕で連帯した平和行進。のべ400人参加、537人分の署名が



兵 庫
HYOGO
14支部80人参加のパレードに、「がんばって」と駆け寄る人も



福 岡
FUKUOKA
天神繁華街で原爆パネルを展示し、おりづるピースアクション



愛 媛
EHIME
被爆者とともに、合唱団が「青い空は」を歌いながら



岡 山
OKAYAMA
色とりどりの折り鶴や風船をもって新婦人と原水協共催のパレード



奈 良
NARA
奈良公園で原爆パネルを立てて署名

Statement

We Heartily Welcome the Adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons



July 10, 2017
Executive Central Committee
New Japan Women's Association

On July 7, the United Nations Conference adopted the first-ever treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons by an overwhelming vote of 122 in favor to 1 against, with 1 abstention. 72 years after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the collective efforts carried forward by the Hibakusha, civil society organizations around the world, governments and the United Nations with a call of "No More Hiroshima, No More Nagasaki!" to achieve a "nuclear-weapon-free world" has finally born fruit in the form of a treaty banning nuclear weapons. The New Japan Women's Association heartily welcomes the adoption of the treaty.

The treaty is epoch-making as it condemns cruelty and the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons, and it not only prohibits the use of nuclear weapons but all aspects of nuclear weapon activities, from developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, possessing, stockpiling of nuclear weapons or allowing their stationing in each State Party's territory, to threatening to use them. It is significant also that the treaty refers to the "unacceptable suffering of and harm caused to" the Hibakusha and those affected by nuclear testing, emphasizes the role of the Hibakusha and civil society, particularly the role of women, and specified the importance of peace and disarmament education.

The New Japan Women's Association has, for these 55 years since its founding, never stopped working for peace, rain or shine, promoting the grassroots movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons. Our members have organized gatherings where they bring younger members to listen to the stories of Hibakusha, atomic bomb photo exhibitions, and the campaign to send the compilation of Hibakusha's testimonies and photo panels to schools. We have collected signatures calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons. We have presented more than 15.5 million signatures to the UN so far, and in the current International Signature Campaign launched by the Hibakusha we have gathered 520,000 signatures. The campaign is growing day by day into an collective effort of citizens and municipalities working together. It is a great encouragement that all these activities have led to and are reflected in the treaty.

The treaty will be open for signature to all States on September 20 and enter into force 90 days after 50 countries have ratified it. The New Japan Women's Association call on all States, particularly the nuclear weapons states and their allies to support and become party to the treaty. The Association strongly urges the Government of Japan, which turns its back on the treaty despite being the only country that suffered the use of atomic bombs, to swiftly join the treaty and encourage others to do so.

In order to achieve universal adherence to the treaty, and move forward toward the total elimination of nuclear weapon, let us accelerate our effort to promote the Hibakusha International Signature Campaign, galvanizing public opinion to pressure the Japanese Government to join the treaty

Let us also work for developing unity among women, citizens and opposition parties, go out of the doors to mobilize "red actions" and bring in many more new members to drive the Abe Government to resign and establish a new government which will support the nuclear ban treaty.

The New Japan Women's Association is resolved to continue its overall effort until a "world without nuclear weapons" becomes reality.

Speeches delivered by NJWA President KASAI Kimiyo



United Nations Conference to Negotiate a Legally Binding Instrument to Prohibit Nuclear Weapons, Leading towards Their Total Elimination

June 15, 2017

Madam President.

I speak on behalf of the New Japan Women's Association, an NGO of women working together to protect children against nuclear war for 55 years. I also represent the Japan Council against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs.

The Government of Japan is not present here but an overwhelming majority of Japanese women and people stand with you hoping to see this Conference take a historic step forward by adopting the convention to prohibit nuclear weapons. I warmly support your effort. The signature campaign initiated by the Hibakusha has gathered support from 2.96 million people so far in Japan. Many people are marching now in "Orizuru (Paper Crane) Parade" in many cities in Japan to show solidarity with you all.

I welcome that the draft Convention totally prohibits nuclear weapons on the ground of their humanitarian consequences, explicitly refers to the role of the Hibakusha and civil society, and includes gender perspectives.

Heightening international tensions are the reason why we must hurry to eliminate nuclear weapons. They should not be used as a pretext to oppose to it. We call on nuclear weapons states to fulfill their promise to eliminate their nuclear arsenals. We particularly urge the Government of Japan, as the only nation that suffered the atomic bombings, to play an active role by supporting, signing, and ratifying the convention. We women and civil society of Japan are resolved to strengthen our efforts to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.



June 17, 2017
Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, New York

Women's March and Rally to Ban the Bomb

Dear sisters and friends,

I am KASAI Kimiyo, president of the New Japan Women's Association (Shinfujin) standing before you with my association delegates. From women of the atomic bombed nation of Japan, we extend the warmest greetings of solidarity to you all.

Today, in various parts of Japan, people are marching in Orizuru parades in solidarity with the Women's March to Ban the Bomb. Orizuru is a paper crane, a symbol of the elimination of nuclear weapons. We are wearing red to express our anger against the Japanese Government under Prime Minister Abe, who is absent at the UN Conference to adopt a historic convention for prohibiting nuclear weapons. Red is a penalty card calling the Abe Government to resign.

Women of Japan have long been campaigning so that there should never be another Hiroshima and Nagasaki anywhere on this planet. Our members are actively involved in the Hibakusha International Signature Campaign, broadening support on the grassroots level. We are thrilled to see our long years' effort is bearing a fruit as the ban convention.

Friends,

We all have a great opportunity before us to march forward to make sure the ban on nuclear weapons leads to their elimination. We can achieve a peaceful and just world where tax money is used for livelihood, social welfare and education instead of military spending. Like the anti-Trump movement developing in the US, a new era is beginning in Japan. United citizens and opposition parties are standing against the Abe Government. Every week, people organize demonstration around the Diet building, saying, "No Nuclear Power!" "No War" "Abe Resign!" Two days ago, ruling parties forcibly enacted the conspiracy law. A storm of protests is spreading out now. Together, we will prevail.