



## On the passing away of Dr. Hideo Tsuchiyama

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

## Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons adopted by a majority

Keiko Nakamura (Associate Professor, RECNA)

**O**n July 7, 2017, the United Nations conference in New York to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons adopted an international treaty that demands the complete outlawing of all such weapons<sup>1</sup>. The results were 122 nations in favor, one against (the Netherlands) and one abstention (Singapore).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

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

During the meeting a press conference was held at



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

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

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

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

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

---

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

Satoshi Hirose (Vice Director, RECNA)

---

**T**his year’s Nagasaki Peace Declaration began with a powerful call towards achieving the goal of “a world free of nuclear weapons,” following the adoption of the text of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It showed just how eagerly the atomic bombing site of Nagasaki had been waiting for this treaty. Now the long-hoped for prohibition of nuclear weapons has finally been put forward in the concrete form of an international treaty, the sense of joy is something that almost verges on the indescribable.

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

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

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

---

## Dispatches from Nagasaki No.21

Tatsujiro Suzuki (Director, RECNA)

---

### Peace Declaration and Mayors for Peace Nagasaki Appeal

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Nagasaki University announces launch of English language academic journal

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

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



Volume 6, No. 2 September, 2017

Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University

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

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