Hiroshima Prefecture

Hiroshima Prefecture / Hiroshima Organization for Global Peace (HOPe)

http://hiroshimaforpeace.com

Introduction

Hiroshima Prefecture and HOPe propose a paradigm shift towards the nuclear-weapon-free world. This transformation is deemed essential to prevent a catastrophic future for humanity and the Earth. This juncture is pivotal for crafting a nuclear abolition roadmap. Proposing the inclusion of a clear goal for a nuclear-weapon-free world in the Pact of the Future, a milestone for sustainable endeavors, stems from the belief that humanity's determination and explicit proof are vital at this historical turning point. The main objective is to catalyze global action towards achieving a world free from nuclear weapons.

Chapeau

The world is currently facing a crisis of "great division" caused by the threat of an inevitable climate crisis, politico-military conflicts as well as economic and social inequalities. The existence of nuclear weapons would intensify such conflicts and divisions.

We must acknowledge the fact that the human species will never achieve a truly sustainable world without completely eradicating nuclear weapons. Nuclear disarmament discussions have so far had two elements — the focus of peace and security and a humanitarian focus, in both of which significant achievements have been made. In addition to those, Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPe proposes to add "Sustainability" as a new third element.

As we choose to pursue a future that embraces "diversity, equity and inclusion," we should facilitate a shift to a new paradigm towards "Sustainable Peace and Prosperity for All".

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

In our biggest shared test since the WWII (OCA 2020), we are urged to recognize that the human species and the planet are currently facing a crisis of sustainability. Mere short-term fixes or procrastination without making major changes to the status quo will no longer help us tackle this extremely severe crisis.

We should fully broaden imagination to focus on goals and targets leading to the "Sustainable Peace and Prosperity for All," rather than limiting themselves to sustainable "development" and "growth."

We can find early signs of "Sustainable Peace and Prosperity for All" in the current enrichment of the concept of "human rights" as a bundle of political and social rights and its application to the economic system including the correction and elimination of historical, social, cultural and political injustices, including colonialism, sexism and racism; the restoration of the intrinsic value of non-financial elements

through a more profound combination of the concept of human rights, and capitalism, as seen in recent public interest in "business and human rights" and ESG (environmental, social, and governance); the firm establishment of both corporate social responsibility (CSR) and creating social value (CSV); and the possibility of creating a hybrid economic and social system whereby corporate ownership will be further diversified and evolved.

It is obvious that no sustainable planet or prosperity can be achieved without peace and security. For that purpose, the elimination of nuclear weapons is utterly compulsory. Much needed resource for realization of a sustainable planet and prosperity may be borne by the elimination of nuclear weapons. It is useful to pay due attention to costs and benefits of nuclear weapons, as well as opportunity cost due to the existence of nuclear weapons to help increase the incentive for a transformation to the abolition of nuclear weapons. World military spending has expanded even during the Covid era. Significant benefit would be gained if military spending, including the cost of nuclear weapons, were used for civilian purposes.

From now on, it will be valuable to devise a mechanism for allocating a certain percentage of world military spending to human well-beings via transnational agencies.

Chapter II. International peace and security

Chapter II should stipulate that efforts to be made to agree on a timeframe for the elimination of nuclear weapons by 2045, the centennial of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, at the latest. This timeframe is also recommended in the HLAB report (2022).

The preamble of the 2030 Agenda says, "There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development." In addition, UN-SDGs Goal 16 reads, "Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development ..." Nevertheless, the agenda sets no goal or target related to the abolition of nuclear weapons nor even includes mention thereof.

It is now clear that the existence of nuclear weapons is a source of common threats to the world in a new era. While our current world needs solidarity the most, the existence of the nuclear weapons amplify the crisis and symbolize the solidification of such great divides, posing a great risk of not being able to overcome anti-integration and division. The goal is to establish a new social foundation for a sustainable future that never relies on nuclear weapons.

In fact, the existence of nuclear-weapon-free zones are substantially a "world free of nuclear weapons." A total of over 110 countries, mainly in the Southern hemisphere — Latin America, the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, Central Asia and Africa—are members of any of the already existing five nuclear-weapon-free-zones. Given that these nuclear-weapon-free zones themselves do not deny nuclear deterrence between nuclear-weapon states, this may be an effective mechanism as a transition to the nuclear-weapon-free world.

We should unravel the mutually-related global crises, help build a better, sustainable world for humankind and the world, and implement bold initiatives to achieve decarbonization, overcome divisions, and exit to a nuclear-weapon-free world. We need to adopt a theoretical approach to ensure the world's transformations from two angles: that toward the abolition of nuclear weapons and that toward a world where no nuclear weapons are needed.

In this context, trust-building among countries and various actors will undoubtedly form the basis for both approaches. Additionally, we must face the reality that "human activities cause threats to the environment, health, and science and technology" (UNDP 2022) in addition to the conventional concept of human security, in which people deprived of freedom due to fear, want and intolerance and faced with harsh circumstances have been positioned as its focus. While people themselves should pursue human

security through "the eyes of humankind", advanced human security shall be achieved through solidarity based on agency. Inter-dependency across all people and between people and the planet must also be considered, transcending the logic and scope of national security.

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

The word "crisis" is associated here with science and technology because we predict that Sci-Tech innovation will cause an irreversible situation. The serious challenges and concerns of new technological applications have also been discussed in the military domain recently at GA First Committee (A/C.1/78/L.56), pointing out from humanitarian, legal, security, technological and ethical perspectives.

Currently, there is no coordinated governance for the introduction of scientific and technological innovation. The global adoption and profit formation in Sci-Tech contrast with the absence of a globalized system for distributing and reinvesting those profits into society. Problem-solving mechanisms are primarily built on agreements among sovereign states, regional governments, and multinational institutions, resulting in a significantly slower pace compared to the introduction of innovation.

The speed gaps and time lags between profit production and distribution and between introduction and problem solving constitute major problems in the contemporary system for the global economy. Therefore, it is important to build an appropriate global governance system for the introduction of scientific and technological innovation to enable the well-planned process of predicting the impacts of the introduction of certain technologies, reducing negative impacts, and making a just transition to a new economic and social system established by the introduction while replacing the rule of "monopoly and competition" with the rule of "sharing and cooperation." Moreover, such discussion and policy making should clearly be based on objective data and evidence.

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

In recent times, we have witnessed widespreading global movements advocating for values and rights, including gender equality, opposing sexual and workplace harassment, championing LGBTQ rights, and fighting against racism. Concurrently, there has been a movement addressing the climate justice in combatting negative effects of climate change. These collective efforts share a commonality — they originated from marginalized individuals asserting their rights and dignity, garnering widespread public support for justice and fairness. It's crucial not to overlook that these movements stem from a shared dissatisfaction and crisis in response to escalating global inequality, spanning economic disparities, unequal access to resources, water, healthcare, and the digital divide. The ongoing challenges of eradicating inequality, achieving justice, and promoting diversity and inclusion remain paramount on the global agenda.

Education for future generations should addresses and seeks solutions to the diverse challenges mentioned above, aiming to achieve a sustainable future where all people can enjoy peace and prosperity. This educational initiative should include content on disarmament, specifically addressing the threat of nuclear weapons. To realize a sustainable and peaceful world by future generations, it is crucial to incorporate educational strategies that empower youth to actively shape their learning, based on the concept of 'backcasting.' This proactive approach to learning is just as important as learning from the past.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of the current generation to create opportunities for the world's youth to encounter and build peaceful relationships through in-person as well as virtual exchanges. This not only contributes to disarmament education but also aligns with the present generation's role in fostering harmonious global connections to go beyond the divisions.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

Considering the threat we face and some ideal security mechanisms amid the current progress of globalization, the threats in today's society are not confined to nations alone; they are brought about by a diverse array of actors. an imminent and serious security threat has already been posed to us by the limits of the earth, no matter where we are on the globe.

"Sustainable peace and prosperity" that respect diversity, equity and inclusion, and does not burden the planet, should lead to the creation of a symbiotic relationship between humanity and the planet, not only among nations. Hiroshima Prefecture / HOPe advocate for connecting actors not only at the international and national levels but also at the local and regional levels, with from diverse civil society, transcending sectors to form a three-dimensional network. We support the Secretary-General's initiative regarding the establishment of an inclusive multilateral system and the proposal for the formation of an advisory group on local and regional governments.

When envisioning a world without reliance on nuclear weapons for security, the solution should not involve the substitution with new forms of weaponry. Instead, the optimal response to this entails creating a world where sustainable peace and prosperity are guaranteed through the attainment of various components. This includes fostering a resilient, diverse, and inclusive society where every individual can enjoy peace and prosperity.

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