

Dialogue of Scientists and Religious Leaders for Nuclear Disarmament on the Occasion of the Pugwash Conference in Nagasaki

Draft Program

1. Purpose

70 years are passing since the moment of the dropping of atomic bombs on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Explosion of atomic bombs at one moment destroyed the precious lives of tens of thousands of people and even now some tens of thousands of *hibakusha* (atomic bomb survivors) are suffering from the aftereffects of radiation from the bombing.

Despite the wishes of many people for abolitions of atrocious and inhumane nuclear weapons, by 'power politics' of the International society, still more than sixteen thousands nuclear bombs which can cause indescribable tragedies on humankind are existing in the world.

With current conditions, "The Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs" will take place in Nagasaki this year attended by international scientists who have their basis of research and actions on the singular purpose of "eradication of nuclear weapons and wars". Including the discussion of nuclear weapons' inhumanity, scientific and objective discussions will be held for their elimination. While at the same time, religious leaders have also been taking actions and committed themselves with the international solidarity to abolish these inhumane nuclear weapons.

It is aimed that the dialogue will provide the forum to engage in an open discussion among scientists participating in the Pugwash and religious leaders from within and outside of the country for abolition of nuclear weapons. The dialogue will intend to identify common agenda and the urgently needed action at present day through sharing expert knowledge and experience among participants.

We would like to share the proposal with hopes and visions from the dialogue with globally wider circle of political and citizen leaders and to call the international community to take further actions for elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. Organizers

Nagasaki Inter-religious Dialogue for Peace
World Conference of Religions for Peace (WCRP/ Religions for Peace) Japan

3. Date:

November 6, 2015 (Fri) 13 : 30 ~ 19 : 00
(1) Dialogue Conference (13 : 30 ~ 17 : 00)
(2) Reception (17 : 30 ~ 19 : 00)

4. Venue:

Nagasaki Catholic Center 2F Lecture Hall
(10-34 Ueno-machi, Nagasaki-shi TEL: 095-846-4246)

5 . Participants: About 120

Nagasaki Inter-religious Dialogue for Peace, Religions for Peace Japan, Citizens of Nagasaki and Experts of Disarmament, participants from Pugwash

6. Language: English and Japanese

7. Draft Program (13 : 30 ~ 17 : 00)

13 : 00 Registration

13 : 30 Opening

Prayer for Peace (in silence)

Opening Remarks: **Rev. Chitoshi Noshita**, *President of Nagasaki Inter-religious Dialogue for Peace*

Welcome Speech: **Mr. Tomihisa Taue**, *Mayor of Nagasaki city (TBD)*

Testimony of Atomic-bomb Survivor: **Mr. Masanori Nakashima**, *President of Nagasaki Prefecture Hibakusha Health Handbook Holders' Association*

14 : 00 “For the World Without Nuclear Weapons”

Keynote Speeches: **Prof. Christopher Watson**, *Council of Pugwash Conference/ Emeritus Fellow of Merton College, Oxford University*

Ven. Gijun Sugitani, *Chair of the Board, Religions for Peace Japan/ Supreme Advisor of Tendai Buddhist Denomination*

14 : 30 Panel Discussion “Dialogue of Scientists and Religious Leaders”

Coordinator: **Prof. Takao Takahara**, *International Politics and Peace Research, Faculty of International Studies of Meiji Gakuin University*

Panelists: **Prof. Dr. Götz Neueck**, *Council of Pugwash Conference/ Deputy Director of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH) in Hamburg*

Dr. Karen Hallberg, *Council of Pugwash Conference/ Professor of Physics at the Instituto Balseiro in Bariloche/ Research Fellow of the Argentine National Council of Science and Technology at the Centro Atomico Bariloche*

Dr. Rebecca E. Johnson, *Director of Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy*

Ven. Tatsuya Kusunoki, *Vice President of Nagasaki Inter-religious Dialogue for Peace*

Rev. Yutaka Minabe, *Board Member of Abolition of Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament/ Task Force of Religions for Peace Japan/ Bishop, Anglican Bishop of Yokohama*

Rev. Kyoichi Sugino, *Deputy Secretary General of Religions for Peace International*

Floor Discussion

(PNND, Mayors for Peace, Citizen Group of Nagasaki, etc)

16 : 40 Appeal for Abolishment of Nuclear Weapons (Statement)

Closing Remarks: Religions for Peace Japan
Prayers for Peace (in silence)

17 : 00 End of Dialogue Conference

17 : 30 Reception (Nagasaki Catholic Center 1F)

19 : 00 End of Reception