

Call to Oppose the US-India Nuclear Agreement

September 3, 2008

Foreign Minister

Your Excellency / Dear Minister

We appeal to you as organizations representing *Hibakusha* (A-bomb survivors) and other citizens of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We have consistently opposed the US-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement. We oppose it not only because by allowing an exception for India, which is not a member of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Agreement will lead to the collapse of the NPT system, but also because we are concerned that it will give countries such as North Korea and Iran an excuse for nuclear weapons development.

Many informed people in Japan, including the Mayors of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki, are strongly opposed to this Agreement. We have made repeated representations to the Japanese government to oppose the Agreement. We hoped that naturally, as the government of the country that was attacked with nuclear weapons, it would understand.

Unfortunately, despite our requests, the Japanese government's stance has remained vague throughout. There have even been reports that the Japanese government will agree to an exemption for India at the plenary meeting of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) in September.

Hibakusha have poured their hearts and souls into the movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons, that never again may the human race be forced to endure the type of tragic suffering that they experienced. And one of the main foundations has been the conviction that only by strengthening the NPT system will a path be opened up for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

We are well aware that your government has long devoted itself to the elimination of nuclear weapons and there would be no greater happiness for us than for your government to heed our fervent plea and oppose the exceptional treatment for India

proposed under the US-India Nuclear Cooperation Agreement.

We beg your forgiveness for our importunate appeal.

Hiroshima Organizations:

Hiroshima Council of A-Bomb Sufferers Organizations
(Director General, Kazushi Kaneko)

Hiroshima Council of A-Bomb Sufferers Organizations
(Director General, Sunao Tuboi)

Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation

Hiroshima Council Against A and Hydrogen Bombs

NO DU Hiroshima Project

Association for Peace Exchange with Indian & Pakistani Youth

Hiroshima Alliance for Nuclear Weapons Abolition

Nagasaki Organizations

Nagasaki Hibakusha Certificate Friendship Society

Nagasaki Council of the A-bomb Sufferers

Society of the A-bomb Survivors in Nagasaki

Nagasaki Friends for the Hibakusha Certificate

A-bomb Victims Liaison Council of Nagasaki Peace Action Center