

# Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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## Third session

New York, 29 April–10 May 2019

### Note verbale dated 23 April 2019 from the Government of Japan addressed to the Chair of the Committee

#### Working paper submitted by Japan

The Government of Japan presents its compliments to the Chair of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and has the honour to transmit herewith the text of appeals, entitled “Kyoto Appeal”, produced by the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament (see annex).

The Group of Eminent Persons was established in 2017 by the Government of Japan, primarily in order to address the nuclear disarmament challenges, such as deterioration of international security, as well as the serious division over approaches towards realizing a world free of nuclear weapons, not only between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States, but also among the non-nuclear-weapon States.

The purpose of the Group of Eminent Persons is to submit policy recommendations on concrete measures to be taken by the international community as a whole for the substantive advancement of nuclear disarmament. Members of the Group participated in the discussions in their personal capacities, and do not represent any specific organizations or countries.

During its first phase, the members of the Group of Eminent Persons met twice, in Hiroshima and Tokyo, and made recommendations, in March 2018, which focused on urgent and immediate activities to build bridges among States with divergent views. At the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference, in April 2018, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Taro Kono, expressed his confidence that the recommendations would be a meaningful reference for the international community.

During its second phase, the Group of Eminent Persons held two meetings, in Nagasaki and Kyoto, and continued to discuss necessary measures to be taken by the international community for the advancement of nuclear disarmament under the current circumstances and produced the “Kyoto Appeal”.



On 16 April 2019, the Group presented the “Kyoto Appeal” to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Taro Kono, in Tokyo, as the outcome document of the discussions at its second phase.

The Government of Japan believes that the appeals, which attempt to converge different approaches on nuclear disarmament, could be a meaningful reference for the international community and requests that the present text be circulated as a working paper of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference.

## Annex

### **Kyoto Appeal by the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament**

#### **Appeals for the 2020 Review Process for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**

The year 2020 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the twenty-fifth anniversary of its indefinite extension, which was based on a package of three decisions and the resolution on the Middle East. The Non-Proliferation Treaty is the cornerstone of the global regime for nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament and international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and is a fundamental part of the architecture for collective global peace and security, along with norms of the renunciation of aggression, peaceful settlement of disputes and an effective United Nations Security Council.

Looking forward to the 2020 Review Conference of the of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament, meeting in Nagasaki and Kyoto, is deeply concerned about the steadily deteriorating situation for nuclear disarmament, which is endangering international peace and stability.

The Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement of Nuclear Disarmament therefore urges the international community to reaffirm that:

1. The fundamental commitment remains of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and which constitutes one of the pillars of the Non-Proliferation Treaty regime, as elaborated by consensus in 1995, 2000 and 2010 in the final documents of the respective conferences.

The Group of Eminent Persons emphasizes that:

2. A solid foundation for a more stable, safer and prosperous world requires:

- (a) Sustaining and preserving bilateral and multilateral nuclear arms control treaties and agreements, including monitoring and verification modalities;

- (b) Fulfilling all obligations and commitments under nuclear arms control and disarmament treaties and agreements, and utilizing existing mechanisms to resolve concerns about non-compliance and potentially destabilizing nuclear arms modernization;

- (c) Rebuilding civility and respect in discourse and restoring practices of cooperation on nuclear arms control and threat reduction; and

- (d) Respecting the contribution of civil society in nurturing mutual understanding and cooperation among conflicting parties, as well as in cultivating innovative ideas to help States to implement nuclear disarmament measures.

The Group of Eminent Persons recommends that, during the proceedings of the 2020 Review Conference:

3. Nuclear-weapon States further explain and share information regarding their nuclear doctrines, deterrence policies, risk reduction measures and security assurances among themselves through the so-called “P-5 process” and in parallel with non-nuclear-weapon States.

The Group of Eminent Persons further recommends that:

4. All States, including non-signatory States to the Non-Proliferation Treaty, contribute to and develop, as needed, forums and processes to address nuclear threat reduction, confidence- and security- building measures and nuclear disarmament verification.
5. To promote confidence and reassurance among themselves, and thereby enhance global security, all States possessing nuclear weapons must:
  - (a) Explain and discuss their respective security concerns regarding the force postures of other States possessing nuclear weapons;
  - (b) Further explain and clarify whether and how their nuclear policies and force postures are consistent with applicable international law, especially international humanitarian law;
  - (c) Implement measures to ensure the safety and security of their nuclear weapons, weapon-usable nuclear materials and related infrastructure, to the extent possible given their respective international legally-binding nuclear non-proliferation obligations; and
  - (d) Agree on and implement measures to increase transparency, and predictability and confidence in the non-use of nuclear weapons, and also to reinvigorate nuclear arms control to advance universal nuclear disarmament.
6. All States should explore mechanisms/measures which hold States accountable and liable for any damages to third party States and populations resulting from any transport, deployment or use of nuclear weapons.
7. Nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon States should promote the realization of legally binding security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties.
8. Despite the deep differences on the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, all States should engage with each other to advance nuclear disarmament.
9. All States should take measures to demonstrate how peace and security can be maintained with reduced reliance on, or without, nuclear weapons.
10. All States should assess how emerging technologies may complicate strategic stability and increase dangers of nuclear-weapons use, and adopt measures to prevent this; civil society should contribute to these efforts.
11. All States should continue to support the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, and the remaining eight Annex 2 States should sign and ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, as applicable, in particular the four Non-Proliferation Treaty States parties signatories to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty whose ratifications are pending.
12. The Group of Eminent Persons welcomes the convening of the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York in November 2019, and encourages all concerned States to participate.
13. All States should support the disarmament agenda of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, which highlights the need for a common vision and path to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

## **List of members of the Group of Eminent Persons for Substantive Advancement list**

Takashi Shiraishi (Chair)	Chancellor, Prefectural University of Kumamoto
Setsuko Aoki	Professor of Law, Keio University Law School
Nobumasa Akiyama	Dean, School of International and Public Policy, Hitotsubashi University
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Mahmood Karem	Former Ambassador of Egypt to Japan/former member of the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters
Anton Khlopkov	Director, Center for Energy and Security Studies
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