

Appeal

Toward Banning Inhumane Weapons: From Cluster Munitions to Uranium Weapons

Today, in Osaka, we had a Symposium “Toward Banning Inhumane Weapons: From Cluster Munitions to Uranium Weapons,” co-sponsored by the International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (ICBUW) - Japan/Kansai and the Japan Campaign to Ban Landmines (JCBL).

All of such weapons as antipersonnel land mines, cluster munitions and uranium weapons seriously harm civilians. The danger of those weapons may last for a long time even after the termination of hostilities. They are the “weapons of indiscriminate destruction” that are against the international human rights and humanitarian laws.

People in the world, together with the victims of such inhumane weapons of indiscriminate destruction, have taken actions for banning those weapons and supporting victims.

The power of world citizens and victims together with the political will of leading countries, the ban treaties of antipersonnel land mines and cluster munitions were concluded. We shall go further to ban uranium weapons learning the experience of their campaign and process.

In the preamble of the Japanese Constitution, “we recognize that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want.” In the article 9 of the constitution, “the Japanese people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.” And further, “land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained.” Based on the Japanese Constitution, we request our government to take more active lead for banning “inhumane weapons of indiscriminate destruction”, as it is a duty of government to follow our constitution. Japanese government should make the situation of storage of such inhumane weapons in the US bases clear and request the US to remove and renounce them. We request our government to give concrete assistance and support for the victims based on their actual needs.

We call on people at home as well as all over the world for solidarity to strengthen the international stream of banning “inhumane weapons of indiscriminate destruction”. We shall abolish war itself which require the use of such inhumane weapons. Let us make a peaceful world hand in hand with each other.

Osaka, Japan
November 15th, 2009

Adopted by all the participants at the **Symposium “Toward Banning Inhuman Weapons: From Cluster Munitions to Uranium Weapons”**