

Results of Participation in the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference

1 Summary and objectives

The Governor participated in the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from April 24 to May 2. Through side events and meetings, he promoted the efforts of the prefecture and the Hiroshima Organization for Global Peace (HOPE) to government officials from various countries, and called for the abolition of nuclear weapons. The Prefectural Assembly also participated in the Preparatory Committee session, side events organized by the prefecture, etc.

2 Current situation and background

The third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference was held from April 28 to May 9, 2025. Amidst the ongoing severe international situation surrounding nuclear weapons, including the armed conflict between Israel and Palestine, the growing threat of the use of nuclear weapons in Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and tensions between nuclear-weapon states and non-nuclear-weapon states, discussions were held during the three Preparatory Committee sessions that took place between 2023 and 2025 in order to realize the success of the 2026 Review Conference.

3 Overview

At the venue of the Preparatory Committee session, two side events were held and visits were paid to UN Ambassadors in New York and representatives of governments of other countries. Additionally, a banner exhibition introducing the initiatives of Hiroshima Prefecture and HOPE was conducted.

For details, please refer to the attachment.

[Schedule]

(dates are local time)

Date (mm/dd)	Event	Location
Friday, April 25	• Meeting with Ambassador Muhamad (Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador Danese (Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador Umarov (Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador Prabowo (Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador Yamazaki (Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations) • Banner exhibition (until April 30)	New York
Monday, April 28	• Meeting with Ambassador Nebenzia (Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ms. Alison Storsve, Deputy Permanent Representative of the U.S. Delegation to the Conference on Disarmament • Co-organized side event • Meeting with Ambassador Schalkwyk (Deputy Permanent	

	Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations) • Meeting with UN Secretary-General Guterres • Meeting with Ambassador Thöni (Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations in Geneva) • Youth Exchange Reception hosted by the Japanese Government	
Tuesday, April 29	• Meeting with Ambassador Goebel (Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament) • Organized side event • Meeting with Ms. Blix, Swedish Special Envoy for the NPT	
Wednesday, April 30	• Meeting with Ambassador Geels (Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations, Ambassador for Disarmament) • Meeting with Ambassador Lopez (Permanent Mission of the Republic of El Salvador to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador Chan (Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations) • Meeting with Ambassador White (Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in Geneva) • Meeting with Ambassador Mahmoud (Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations)	

4 Results

[Contribution to the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference]

- Amidst intense discussions at the Preparatory Committee session ahead of the NPT Review Conference, we engaged in expert discussions at side events and met with government officials and were able to convey the importance of the abolition of nuclear weapons and nuclear disarmament from multiple aspects by putting forward the three-pronged approach by HOPE as well as stressing the two perspectives of sustainability and security without reliance on nuclear weapons based on the HOPE approach.

[Enhancing outreach and expanding the supporter base]

- UN Secretary-General António Guterres stated that nuclear weapons, climate change, and emerging technologies are three threats to the existence of humanity, with nuclear weapons being the most important issue. He also stated that he fully supports Hiroshima's efforts regarding the three-pronged approach advocated by Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPE.
- We explained the three-pronged approach advocated by Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPE to the ambassadors and government officials of the United States and Russia, both nuclear-weapon states, and gained their understanding. We have reached a shared understanding of the significance of abolishing nuclear weapons.
- We explained the three-pronged approach advocated by Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPE to the ambassadors and government officials of non-nuclear-weapon states and gained their understanding. In particular, the prefecture/HOPE's appeal for a security policy that does not rely on nuclear deterrence and for the 91.4 billion dollars spent annually on nuclear weapons-related expenses to be redirected to efforts to abolish nuclear weapons was supported by ambassadors from many countries.
- In order to expand the supporter base, Governor Yuzaki, Nagasaki Governor Oishi, the Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly delegation, and the Speaker of the Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly participated in the NPT Review Conference together and

gathered at a side event, enabling them to send out a powerful message from the prefectures that suffered atomic bombings about the importance of abolishing nuclear weapons and advancing nuclear disarmament.

[Policy development]

- Through exchanges of opinions with experts at side events, meetings with ambassadors, and other means, we were able to hear valuable proposals that will be useful in considering future policies, such as the need to develop human resources for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the importance of research on security policies that do not rely on nuclear deterrence.

[Other]

- Cards with QR codes were distributed at side events and the banner exhibition to strengthen communication and expand the supporter base.
 - Introduction of websites explaining the prefecture/HOPe's initiatives, such as the Hiroshima Report
 - Appeal for donations to support Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPe's efforts
 - Call for participation in the "#CranesForOurFuture campaign (held in August)"

1 Hosting of a co-organized side event [April 28 (Mon)]

In order to realize a sustainable world without nuclear weapons, the event focused on security issues in Northeast Asia, and participants from the United Nations, national and local governments, and civil society discussed the path toward realizing this goal from their respective positions.

[Date] Monday, April 28, 2025, 1:15–2:30 pm

[Venue] United Nations Headquarters (Conference Room 8)

[Organizer] Mongolian Government

[Co-organizer] UNITAR, Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPe, Nagasaki Prefecture, Arms Control Association (USA)

[Theme] Strengthening regional peace and security in Northeast Asia

[Speakers]

Panelists:

- Ambassador Ankhbayar Nyamdorj (Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations)
- Mr. Hidehiko Yuzaki (Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture, President of HOPe)
- Shizuka Kuramitsu (Research Assistant, Arms Control Association)

Moderator:

Junko Shimazu (Programme Officer and Team Leader, UNITAR Hiroshima Office)

Greetings from the co-organizers: Mr. Kengo Oishi (Governor of Nagasaki Prefecture)

[Participants] 46 people (including seven members of the Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly delegation and the Speaker of the Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly)

[Major opinions]

- There are five nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZs) covering 120 countries, mainly in the Southern Hemisphere. Among these NWFZs, including Mongolia, which has been recognized as having "single-State nuclear-weapon-free zone status," closer cooperation among them may be able to promote nuclear disarmament.
- We must work in an inclusive manner to bridge divisions, strengthen multilateralism, and build confidence between non-nuclear-weapon and nuclear-weapon states, working together with communities and individuals affected by nuclear tests around the world.
- The achievement rate of the SDGs remains at 16% due to a number of factors, including the COVID-19 pandemic, debt crises, climate change-related disasters, and conflicts, which is the main factor. Therefore, in order to resolve conflicts, it is necessary to redirect the enormous amount of money invested in military buildup, including nuclear weapons, to build a sustainable society.
- From the perspective of civil society, learning that representatives from various countries are working together to address issues at international conferences provides an opportunity for civil society to reflect on how it can support the efforts of each country.



2 Hosting of a side event (research) [April 29 (Tue)]

Based on the results of research that the prefecture/HOPe is conducting with international research institutions in order to realize a world without nuclear weapons, we discussed with experts the elements and conditions for global security that does not rely on nuclear deterrence, as well as how the security concerns of nuclear-weapon-dependent and non-nuclear-weapon-dependent countries can be addressed in the process of creating a world that does not rely on nuclear weapons.

[Date] Tuesday, April 29, 2025, 1:15–2:45 pm

[Venue] United Nations Headquarters (Conference Room A)

[Organizer] Hiroshima Prefecture/HOPe

[Theme] Security without relying on nuclear deterrence

[Speaker]

Moderator: Michiru Nishida (Professor, Nagasaki University)

Panelists:

- Ms. Tytti Erästö (Senior Researcher, Weapons of Mass Destruction Programme, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute [SIPRI])
- Mr. Lukasz Kulesa (Director, Proliferation and Nuclear Policy, The Royal United Services Institute for Defense and Security Studies [RUSI])

Commentators:

- Mr. Chris King (Director, Weapons of Mass Destruction Section, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs)
- Ms. Samantha Neakrase (Senior Director, NTI Global Nuclear Policy Program)

[Participants] 65 people (including seven members of the Hiroshima Prefectural Assembly delegation, the Governor of Nagasaki, and the Speaker of the Nagasaki Prefectural Assembly)

[Major opinions]

- The role of nuclear weapons is not only limited to the deterrence of nuclear attacks, but also includes the deterrence of large-scale attacks using conventional weapons, provision of reassurance to allies, and the conferring of international status and prestige. It is necessary to diminish the central role of nuclear weapons in security and reduce the prestige they are believed to provide.
- Necessary measures include concretely and sustainably alleviating tensions between nuclear-weapon states and easing hostile relations between nuclear-

weapon states.

- When we consider long-range operations that combine offensive and defensive capabilities, such as conventional weapons, air and missile defense, and cyber capabilities, it may be possible to substitute nuclear weapons by increasing reliance on some conventional forces. Such substitution could reduce reliance on nuclear weapons.
- We need to uphold a positive vision of a world in which nuclear weapons have no value and reform the international system so that nuclear weapons become worthless. The non-aggression principle must be strengthened and major powers must adopt more responsible policies.
- To achieve a world free of nuclear weapons, nuclear-weapon states need to change their thinking about deterrence, because they currently overestimate the value of nuclear weapons and underestimate the associated problems.
- Rebuilding trust and confidence is imperative to reducing reliance on nuclear weapons and ultimately eliminating them, and to this end, ensuring transparency and implementing verification is essential.

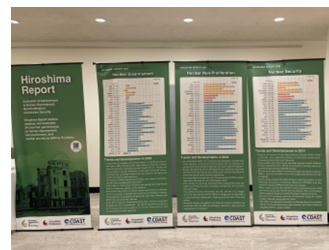


3 Banner Exhibition at the venue of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference [April 25 (Fri)–30 (Wed)]

During the event period, a banner exhibition introducing the initiatives of the prefecture/HOPe was held in a passageway that many attendees gathered at the venue walked through.



[Handouts introducing HOPE's efforts]



[The Banner exhibition]

4. Efforts directed at the United Nations

We requested UN Secretary-General António Guterres to visit the atomic bombing sites again on the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings and the end of the war, and also explained the three-pronged approach to the abolition of nuclear weapons promoted by the prefecture/HOPe.



UN Secretary-General Guterres stated that nuclear weapons, climate change, and emerging technologies are three threats to the existence of humanity, with nuclear weapons being the most important issue. He also stated that he fully supports Hiroshima's efforts.

5 Approach to the stakeholders of various countries [April 25 (Fri)–30 (Wed)]

During his stay, the Governor met individually with stakeholders from various countries involved in the operation of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference. He explained the three-pronged approach toward the abolition of nuclear weapons promoted by the prefecture/HOPe, sought their support, and directly urged them to make solid progress on nuclear disarmament initiatives at this session.

[Nuclear-weapon states]

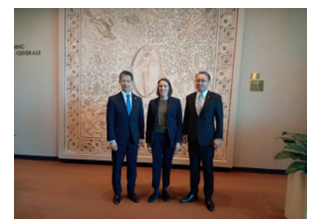
- (1) Meeting with Ambassador Nebenzia Vassily Alekseevich (Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations)

We gained understanding of the three-pronged approach and exchanged opinions. The Ambassador stated that the circumstances that would justify the use of nuclear weapons are extremely limited. It was also mentioned that it is necessary to consider consistent response measures based on international treaties, establish a practical framework, build trust between countries, and ensure transparency in the political decision-making process.



- (2) Meeting with Ms. Alison Storsve, Deputy Permanent Representative of the U.S. Delegation to the Conference on Disarmament

The three-pronged approach was introduced and supported. The Deputy Permanent Representative stated that she considered nuclear weapons themselves to be a very serious threat.



[Non-nuclear-weapon states]

- (1) Meeting with Ambassador Ahmad Faisal Muhamad (Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador stated that he would like to visit Hiroshima and learn about the reality of atomic bombing. Also, as the ASEAN chair, he spoke about his strong commitment to maintaining the nuclear-weapon-free zone, and that there is a need for unity in order to find ways to promote peaceful relations in the region.



- (2) Meeting with Ambassador Sérgio França Danese (Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador pointed out the importance of nuclear-weapon-free zones and introduced the example of how Brazil worked with Argentina, a country that they had been at war with, to establish the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC) to promote the peaceful use of nuclear materials, and that this ended the nuclear arms race and strengthened economic and social ties between the two countries. Historical lessons have led to the recognition that conflicts must first be resolved before the process of regional and economic integration can begin.



- (3) Meeting with Ambassador Kairat Umarov (Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador stated that the damage caused by nuclear testing continues for generations and that further scientific verification is necessary. It was stated that security issues are transnational challenges and cannot be resolved by a single country, and a proposal was made to establish regional United Nations centers to address these issues.



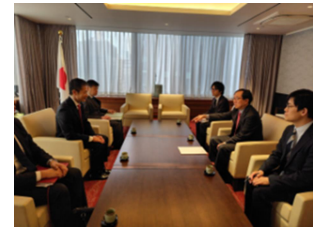
- (4) Meeting with Ambassador Hari Prabowo (Deputy Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador expressed his view that the security provided by nuclear deterrence is an illusion, and that the experience of ASEAN as a nuclear-weapon-free zone is a model for peace and stability. He also expressed strong concerns about the recent discussions on nuclear sharing.



- (5) Meeting with Ambassador Kazuyuki Yamazaki (Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations)

They exchanged views on the situation surrounding the NPT and developments concerning the Trump administration in the United States.



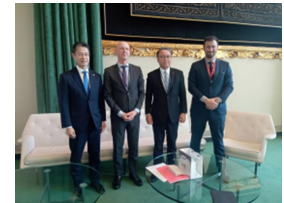
- (6) Meeting with Ambassador Marthinus Van Schalkwyk (Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador stated that South Africa remains committed to resolutions on nuclear disarmament. It was also advised that the sustainability approach is very important and should be promoted while at the same time paying attention to ensuring the right of developing countries to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.



- (7) Meeting with Ambassador Julien Thöni (Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support, with the Ambassador showing particular interest in the sustainability approach, expressing the importance of emphasizing the element of sustainability within the framework of the NPT and the TPNW. Also, it was recognized that it is important to raise awareness by contributing to peace-related events such as Peace Week, which will be held in Switzerland in October of this year.



- (8) Meeting with Ambassador Thomas Goebel (Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament)

The three-pronged approach was discussed, particularly the security approach. The Ambassador stated that the NPT is a highly successful treaty and expressed his appreciation for Hiroshima's significant role in reinforcing adherence to the nuclear taboo.

- (9) Meeting with Ms. Anna Hammarlund Blixt, Special Envoy for the NPT/Director and Deputy Head of Department for Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Export Control, MFA, Stockholm

The three-pronged approach gained support, and the shared recognition of the importance of adding a pillar of sustainability to the nuclear disarmament framework was confirmed. The Special Envoy stated that Sweden is actively working to reduce nuclear risks and that Japan is a close partner in reducing the risk of nuclear conflict.



- (10) Meeting with Ambassador for Disarmament Deborah Mary Geels
(Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador pointed out that with many countries cutting their financial contributions to the United Nations and other organizations, it is necessary to prioritize various issues in resolving them, and that with the rules-based international order coming under great pressure, it is necessary to consider ways to build a feasible system toward a world without nuclear weapons.



- (11) Meeting with Ambassador Egriselda Lopez (Permanent Mission of the Republic of El Salvador to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador explained that El Salvador is also embarking on initiatives related to disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation education in order to abolish nuclear weapons. As the chair of the GRULAC (Latin American and Caribbean Countries) and the host, along with HOPE, of the international conference to be held in Tokyo in June, the intention was expressed to share the excellent experiences of Latin American and Caribbean Countries in the region for the sake of international security.



- (12) Meeting with Ambassador Maritza Chan Valverde (Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support, and views on the international situation surrounding nuclear weapons were exchanged. The Ambassador explained that the detailed rules and verification measures of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons are currently insufficient. She also advised that it is important to collect and prepare information on sustainability impacts, etc., in order to provide logistical support for the decision-making process at the UN in preparation for the next round of goal-setting.



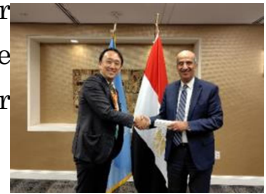
- (13) Meeting with Ambassador Noel White (Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in Geneva)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador noted that the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) is discussing how to incorporate emerging technologies, particularly AI, into nuclear disarmament, while at the same time, countries from the Global South and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) have shown a willingness to actively participate in disarmament discussions within the NPT.

(14) Meeting with Ambassador Osama Mahmoud Abdel Khalek Mahmoud

(Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations)

The three-pronged approach gained support. The Ambassador expressed his gratitude for the close collaboration between the prefecture/HOPe and Egypt, and spoke of his hope to further strengthen this collaboration in the future.



6 Participation in the Youth Exchange Reception hosted by the Japanese government

On the occasion of the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations participated in a reception inviting young people from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, UN officials, local government officials from Japan, etc.

UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs Nakamitsu offered words of encouragement to the young people who will shape the future of the international community. The young people present expressed their determination to continue working towards the abolition of nuclear weapons.



[Remarks by UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs Nakamitsu]



[Ambassador Yamazaki and young people from Hiroshima and Nagasaki]