

Outcome of Participation in the UN General Assembly's First Committee Session

1. Summary and Purpose

Kunihiko Shimada, Principal Director of the Hiroshima Organization for Global Peace (HOPE), participated in the UN General Assembly's First Committee session held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, U.S. He promoted the efforts of Hiroshima Prefecture and HOPE and called on other nations to strengthen their efforts towards the abolition of nuclear weapons.

2. Current Situation and Background

The UN First Committee was established under the UN General Assembly and meets every autumn. Representatives from various governments participate and discuss disarmament and international security.

3. Summary

The Principal Director participated in side events hosted by Kiribati, Malta, and Kazakhstan and met with officials from various Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York to seek their support for initiatives of the prefecture and HOPE.

[Schedule] (Dates are in local time)

| Date | Event | Location |
|-------------------|---|----------|
| Thu, Oct 16, 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in side events (hosted by Kiribati, Malta, and Kazakhstan) - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) - The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations - The Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations | New York |
| Fri, Oct 17, 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations - Participation in an informal meeting (hosted by New Zealand and co-hosted by South Africa and Austria) - The Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations | |

(1) Target

Government officials from various countries and organizations participating in the UN General Assembly

(2) Activity details

A. Participation in side events

Theme: Impact of nuclear weapons and radiation on women

Participants: Kiribati, Malta, Kazakhstan, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, HOPE, etc.

Contents:

- HOPE's efforts centered on a sustainability approach were presented.
- Opinions were expressed that women are more susceptible to the adverse effects of radiation and that women's voices should be reflected in discussions on nuclear disarmament and abolition, arms control, and victim support.

B. Participation in informal meetings

Participating countries: New Zealand, South Africa, Austria, Malaysia, Thailand, Kiribati, and others (a total of 36 countries), as well as International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons

(ICAN), the ICRC, and HOPE.

Contents:

- HOPE's efforts centered on a sustainability approach were presented, and expressions of support were received.
- Under the main theme of strategies to increase the number of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), discussions were held on strategies for the first TPNW Review Conference next year, as well as on the next steps.

C. Meeting with government officials

During the meetings with government officials and representatives from Permanent Missions to the United Nations, views were exchanged on the international situation surrounding nuclear weapons, future prospects, and HOPE's sustainability-focused efforts. The officials also provided advice to HOPE regarding participation in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Review Conference and the first TPNW Review Conference, both to be held next year.

[Person met]

- Mr. Jamil Ahmad, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs UNEP New York
- H.E. Mr. Thomas Goebel, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament
- H.E. Ms. Deborah Mary Geels, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations
- H.E. Ms. Maritza Chan Valverde, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations
- Ms. Margaret Murphy, Disarmament Adviser, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations

4. Outcomes

[Contributions to UN General Assembly's First Committee]

The Principal Director presented the Prefecture's/HOPE's three approaches in discussions with government officials and other participants attending the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, highlighting the importance of addressing nuclear disarmament and the elimination of nuclear weapons from a sustainability perspective based on these approaches.

[Enhancing outreach and expanding the supporter base]

HOPE's approach to raising the issue of nuclear weapons from a sustainability perspective was shared with government officials and other stakeholders, gaining their support as well as specific advice for future activities.