

Dear friends of Secretariat

On behalf of Japan AALA member 3,500 people, I thank you for inviting me to the 60th anniversary of the AAPSO meeting. It is my great honor to express an opinion on "discussion paper" on this occasion. Japan AALA adopted an Action Program at the 53rd National Congress in September 2017. In which you will find our basic assessment of international affairs. According to it, I would like to briefly express a few points.

First of all, I share the evaluation on the positive role that AAPSO has played in different challenges. I would like to thank AAPSO member organizations for their solidarity with Japanese people's fighting for the elimination of nuclear weapons, the return to the mainland of Okinawa, and the removal of the US military bases in Japan.

Secondly, in summing up for 60 years, it is necessary to draw lessons from the problems we faced in each era. In particular, I think that it is necessary to look at the fact and reasons that AAPSO suspended activities for a certain period of time immediate after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Thirdly, I would like to propose several points added in the paper. One is a huge structural change that is occurring in the world politics. While we need to be vigilant on the danger of military hegemonism by the United States, the Trump Administration is losing leadership with political isolation. Instead the emerging countries like China, India and No allied countries are playing more important role.

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted in 2017 in favor of 122 United Nations member countries which was a historical step toward the world without nuclear weapons.

I wish the developments in East Asia be added in the paper, such as People's struggle for creation of community of peace in East Asia and popular resistance the pressing of neoliberalism.

Finally I think it important to refer on the struggle of the people in the Latin America and the Caribbean states against the United States domination and interference.

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