



Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA—JAALA)

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# Action Program of Japan AALA

Adopted at the 54th National Congress on September 1, 2019

## **1, Uphold the right of peoples to self-determination and embrace a peaceful coexistence of nations, standing on the Bandung Spirit**

Enormous structural changes are underway in the world. In lieu of the dominant superpower, the United States, emerging countries such as China and other developing countries have increased their presence both politically and economically, and the non-allied countries are playing more important role than ever. Under the circumstances, raising a banner of Bandung Spirit for self-determination of peoples and co-existence of nations, we shall fight against any types of racism, chauvinism, hegemony and interference in the internal affairs of other countries, commit ourselves to stimulate non-aligned movements with the aim of establishing an international order of peace.

(A) US Trump administration's America First policy, including ethnic discrimination and military hegemonic interventionist policies are the biggest obstacles to world peace and social progress. Meanwhile, Putin administration of Russia forcibly annexed Crimea and intervened in Ukrain. China is also reinforcing its naval power and presence in the surrounding area together with more assertive diplomacy which causes a great concern of neighboring countries. We are opposed to any power doctrine or chauvinistic foreign policy by big powers and confirm our determination to strengthen solidarity and support with people who are fighting against pressure and intervention from foreign major powers and protecting their sovereignty.

(B) Northeast Asia, which had been nervous about North Korea's nuclear weapon program, began to move toward peace again. We welcomed the Panmunjom Declaration (April 2018) and Pyongyang Declaration (September 2018) by the leaders of North and South Korea, and the joint statement of the first US-North Korea Summit (June 2018). We call on the diplomatic efforts of the countries concerned to end the Korean War, conclude a peace agreement, and denuclearize the Korean Peninsula. We are opposed to military buildup and exercises in North East Asia by using excuse of so called "North Korea Threat Theory" or deterrence.

(C) In Southeast Asia, ASEAN, which stands on the basic agreement to resolve conflicts through negotiations and avoid interference to internal affairs, is making an effort to build a framework of a community of peace in whole East Asia, based on the Treaty of Amistad and Cooperation (TAC). In addition, even in Central Asia, the former Soviet countries are moving towards regional cooperation and non-nuclear and non-military alliance. We will strengthen solidarity with peoples and governments of these countries in order to create a "Community of Peace, Cooperation and Prosperity in East Asia". To that end, we will step up a signature-collecting campaign in Japan for a petition to leaders of the East Asia Summit to support the idea.

(D) Any international conflict including the territorial disputes should be settled by talks, in conformity with international law. We oppose militarization in the South China Sea and unilateral change of status quo by use of military forces. We strongly hope that the disputes be resolved by effective implementation of "DOC" and early realization of "COC".

(E) We oppose US pressure and interference into Latin America and Caribbean countries. We support people's struggle of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela for their sovereignty and independence from US domination, regional integration and fights against neo liberal policies.

(F) We oppose unlawful occupation of Palestine by Israeli and its military rule, and support Palestinians struggle for their right to self-determination including the right to build their own state. We will strengthen educational and propagation activity for their cause in Japan and organize a signature-collecting campaign to push Japanese government to recognize statehood of

the autonomous government of Palestine. We protest against Abe administration's approval for Japanese companies to export weapons to Israel, as well as joint research program between two countries.

(G) We reject any terrorism and war against terrorism as well. We must cut off the vicious circle of terrorism and war, so that UN should play a central role to implement measures to eradicate terrorism based on international law and human rights. Efforts must continue to remove hotbeds of terrorism such as poverty and injustice at the same time. Terrorism should not be linked with specific religion or culture. Dialogue and coexistence must be promoted between different civilizations. For this purpose, we will promote dialogue and exchange of ideas among different religious and cultural organizations.

(H) We call for protection of economic sovereignty of the peoples and strongly oppose the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement and the Japan-Europe Free Collaboration Agreement (EPA) as well which gravely infringe the right of food security and economic sovereignty of nations. We will continue to work with Japanese consumer organization and family farmer's association and establish solidarity with movements of people in the world who are fighting for food and economic sovereignty.

(I) We support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations. We will work together with the peoples concerned to protect the global environment in line with 17 "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)". We share grave concern of the people on the climate change and environmental disruption. We demand all countries to quickly ratify Paris Convention and work with the world movement for the preservation of the global environment.

## **2. Eliminate nuclear weapons and dissolve military alliances**

Military alliance, a relic of the Cold War and once tool of the power to rule the world, is being gradually outdated, disintegrated and dysfunctional. In place, a new regional integrated community of nations with spirit of peace and cooperation has been formed in Southeast Asia, Central and South America, Caribbean and other areas. The feature of the community is that they do not make hypothetical enemy outside and are engaged in with equal qualification

of member states. Nuclear-free zones have been established in five continents. In the end, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted in favor of 122 United Nations member countries in 2017. Being encouraged by this global tendency, we commit ourselves to work for elimination of nuclear weapons and dissolution of military alliances, aiming at establishing non-nuclear, non-allied, neutral Japan through abrogation of the Japan-U.S. Mutual Security Treaty and strengthen solidarity with Non Allied Movement.

(A) Japan is the only country to have suffered atomic bombs. Together with victims of

A-bombs, the “Hibakusha”, we have been vigorously engaged in grass roots anti-nuclear movement for abolition of nuclear weapons. We welcome the adoption of the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons at the UN Conference in 2017 as an epoch making development in the history of nuclear disarmament. We urge the Japanese government to promptly sign and the Diet to ratify the treaty. As a member of the observer organization of the Non-Aligned Summit Meeting, we encourage all non-allied countries to participate in the treaty as early as possible and push the countries under nuclear umbrella to change their negative attitude and join the treaty. We will participate in the 2020 NPT Review Conference in cooperation with other organizations.

(B) There are more than 100 US military bases and installations with nearly 50,000 US

servicemen and their families stationed in Japan under the US-Japan Mutual Security Treaty which puts an unreasonable burden on Japanese citizens. The US forces in Japan are commissioned to intervene all over the world. We believe that they are not helpful for stabilizing Asia but on the contrary they have caused conflicts and confrontation in Indo Pacific region. They will rather hinder the Asian people’s effort to create a new order of peace and coexistence. Utilizing every opportunity including international conferences and foreign visits, we will present a real picture of US bases and reality of the Japan-US Security Arrangements, strengthening solidarity with the No-Aligned Movement and anti-foreign bases campaign in the world.

(C) We support the All Okinawa Campaign led by Governor Denny Tamaki of Okinawa Prefecture to oppose construction of a new US military base at

Henoko. We will work with Okinawan people to achieve the goal of "a Peaceful and Free Okinawa", which has gained Asian and African people's support since the first Asia-Africa Peoples Conference in 1957, and collaborate with international solidarity movement to support struggle of the people of Okinawa. We will organize solidarity and support tour to Okinawa to encourage the people.

(D) We oppose reinforcement of US military bases in Japan and work together with peace organization movements calling for removal of those bases. We strongly oppose the US military forces utilizing Japanese territory as their training bases, deploying Osprey in Okinawa and Yokota and also using Kisarazu as their maintenance base. We will promote and support anti-base struggles throughout Japan. We demand a revision of the "Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement", signed in 1960, which stipulate extraterritorial rights of US servicemen, violating significantly Japanese sovereignty and human rights.

(E) We object to the Japan-US joint military operation following the new guidelines agreed between both countries. We also oppose overseas dispatch of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces and its serving abroad. The SDF base in Djibouti must be closed. Japan should not intervene in the territorial dispute in the South China Sea. We strongly oppose the dispatch of SDF to the area and joint military exercises with the US forces. We oppose the large military buildup of Japanese Defense Forces designed by the government's "Defense Plan Outline" and the "Medium-term Defense Force Development Plan" adopted at the end of 2018, We oppose the construction of the SDF base on the Sakishima Islands in Okinawa. We require the government to stop a large volume purchase of US military weapons as is told by the Trump administration. We oppose any weapons trade fair held in Japan.

### **3, Embrace pacifism, protect and make use the Article 9 of the Constitution**

The Abe administration, together with the Komei party, is reinforcing the Japan-U.S. Military alliance, pushing through series of reactionary legislations to allow the SDF be engaged in a war beyond the territory. They are attempting to revise the Article 9 of the Constitution which stipulates to renounce a sovereign right of war and prohibit holding armed forces. This

attempt is closely linked to an ambition of right wing reactionary forces to restore the imperial power of Japan. Such move should not only ruin the credibility that Japan has built up in the international society as a pacifist country, but also may lead to repeat mistakes of interfering in other countries and antagonizing people of the AALA. We will stop such attempts and pursue cooperation and coexistence among nations in Asia and rest of the world through peaceful diplomacy based on Article 9 of the constitution.

Many Japanese media spread a lot of distorted reports from the standpoint of beautifying their subordination with the United States on the premise of supporting the Japan-US alliance. They ignore or report very little about the people's peace movement to remove the US military base. Global media reports are quite biased and one-sided, not criticize global enterprise but distorted view on developments of countries fighting US intervention. We need to require factual reports, inspiring the media and media unions, who are working in the position of power monitoring.

(A) We will reinforce our cooperation with opposition parties and group of citizens to stop constitutional amendment of the Article 9, invalidate unconstitutional security legislations and the cabinet decision which make Japan possible to exercise collective self-defense rights. We will also focus our efforts to push the Abe administration to resign and establish a new coalition government which can promote a more independent and peaceful diplomacy based on the spirit of Article 9.

(B) The Abe administration rammed through "Conspiracy Law", aiming at the suppression of the opposition. It is the part of important measures towards war, and will bring serious obstacles to our international solidarity activities. We will fight for abolition of the law. We also oppose the implementation of the Secret Protection Law and fight against the government intervention to the freedom of press and speech. We are opposed to arms exports and industry-university joint research for the purpose of strengthening military power.

(C) Abe Administration and some of the conservative parties will not accept the historical fact of the war of aggression carried out by the Japanese imperial forces to Asian countries. Their distorted perceptions of the history

must be corrected. In this respect we support full implementation of the Kohno statement on the Japanese army “comfort women” and the Murayama statement which admitted responsibility of Japanese authority for the past colonial rule and war of aggression. We urge the Japanese government to sincerely respond to the request by the Korean government to review the agreement made in 2015 between both countries to restore human dignity and rights of former comfort women.

(D) We will keep sending out to the world facts of the accident of the Fukushima nuclear power plant and risks of nuclear power to the environment and human lives. We oppose the reactivation of nuclear power plants and export of nuclear facilities. We demand relief and support of victims of nuclear power plant accident, and complete revival of the stricken area. We will promote use of renewable energy to replace all nuclear power plants.

(E) We oppose governmental interventions in public education to protect democratic education system. We protest against government intervention on the adoption of the school textbooks. We oppose making moral education mandatory and reintroduction of the old imperial rescript on education.

(F) We promote movements to protect rights and livelihood of foreign residents in Japan. We condemn any type of ethnic contempt and hate crimes. We encourage efforts to eliminate discrimination against Korean schools in Japan as urged by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Human Rights.

(G) To promote gender equality, we support signature campaigns, i.e., petition to ratify the Protocol to Eliminate Discrimination against Women, to abolish discrimination provisions in civil law and family registration law, and the petition to request amendment of the law.

#### **4. Reinforce solidarity with non-aligned movement and extend people’s level interaction**

(A) We will strengthen solidarity with non-aligned movement through Asia-

Africa People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) of which we are qualified to be a permanent member of Secretariat and we also seek cooperation with governments of non-aligned member countries. For this purpose, we will systematically study trends and developments of non-allied countries and disseminate information. We will expand our relationship with governments through participation in international conferences and cooperation with embassies in Tokyo.

(B) We support the effort made by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for seeking peace and stability in East Asia. We will continue the signature campaign for creation of a Community of Peace and Prosperity in East Asia. Each year we send a delegation to the host country of East Asia Summit to submit the petition with collected signatures to the ASEAN Secretariat and leaders of participating countries. To broaden solidarity, we will participate in nongovernmental exchange programs such as the ASEAN Civil Society Conference /ASEAN People's Forum (ACSC/APF). We will also extend relationship with peace and democratic groups in the Western countries. In the interaction we put emphasis on cultural exchanges.

## **5. Expand organization and strengthen financial capabilities**

(A) To increase membership, we will set up regional organization in all prefectures in Japan aiming at 5 thousand memberships by the next term (2019). For this purpose, we will develop a program to disseminate and study "60 years of the Japan AALA".

(B) We develop attractive cultural activities, travel and international exchange programs unique to Japan AALA.

(C) We expand fiscal activity to financially support our campaign, including active sales of imported goods from AALA countries. Also it is essential to reinforce secretariat.

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