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A Proposal for the 18th NAM Summit Meeting

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As a member of delegation of Afro-Asian Peoples Organization (AAPSO), and on behalf of Japan Asia Africa Latin America Solidarity Committee (Japan AALA), I would like to congratulate the 18th NAM Summit Meeting, express the deepest gratitude Mr. president Ilham Aliyev for hosting the most important event of the movement and extend sincere greeting to peoples of NAM countries over the world. It is significant that Azerbaijan serves as the presidency for 65th anniversary of the Bandung conference (2020) and 60th anniversary of NAM (2021).

Japan AALA has been working for a new Japan no-nuclear, no-aligned, and neutral, since its foundation in 1957, opposing Japan-US military alliance and pursuing solidarity with Non-Aligned Movement. As a member of AAPSO Secretariat it is qualified to be an observer at NAM Summit. As of 2019, the organization has over 4,000 members and has a branch of 39 prefectures out of 42 nationwide. It has adopted a new Action Program (Appendix) at the 54th National Congress on September 1st 2019.

Standing on this program, I would like to request that the following points be included in the final document of the Summit.

1. defense sovereignty and the people's right to self determination

On the top of support for the principles stated in the Caracas Declaration, the position should be reconfirmed that NAM oppose any interference, infringement of sovereignty, and support the people who are fighting for sovereignty of their nations.

The “sanctions” imposed by the US Trump administration against Iran and three Latin American countries violates not only WTO rules but also international and humanitarian laws as “collective sanctions” for the people. Moreover, compulsory application to third countries is a serious infringement of national sovereignty that undermines world peace and peoples friendship. We should firmly oppose these unlawful sanctions and confirm our position to work together to support the victims.

“The right to intervene” was enacted by African Union as a peacekeeping operation based on the African Union Covenant Code, considering the recent bitter history of Africa. Therefore the theory should be made strictly an exception, never be abused. Humanitarian intervention under the name of “responsibility to protect” should be rejected to firmly defend sovereignty and the right to self-determination.

The conflicts between member countries should be resolved in conformity with principles of no external intervention and through dialogue and peaceful means.

2. Elimination of nuclear arms

Under the US Trump administration the world is on the verge of a new nuclear arms race. In addition to the five nuclear states, more countries have and intend to have nuclear weapons. As the peace organization in the only country A bombed in the war, we strongly believe that mankind cannot live with nuclear weapons. I would like the NAM to take the lead for eliminating all nuclear weapons as an urgent task.

In this regard I support the policy stated in Caracas declaration, in particular its reference to the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I wish the summit meeting encourage member countries to ratify the treaty as early as possible to make it enter into force.

The treaty adopted in 2017 at the United Nation Conference by the support of 122 nations (mostly NAM countries) was welcomed by the public opinion in the world as a big step toward abolition of nuclear weapons. Why?

First, the treaty includes all necessary elements as prohibition instrument leading toward their total elimination. Different from other disarmament conventions such as No Proliferation Treaty or Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, it illegalizes nuclear weapon itself, which provides the strongest legal basis to invalid any excuses for nuclear weapons.

Secondly the treaty prohibits not only the developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, etc, but also the use or the threat to use. The inclusion of “the threat of use” is quite significant because it will destroy deterrence theory which are used by nuclear weapon states to justify the possession.

Thirdly it is quite important that the convention does not include requirement for specific countries ratification to come into effect. It is different from other treaty such as CTBT which requires specific countries ratification which prevents the treaty from becoming effective. The treaty also gives a way to the nuclear weapon state to join first and then destroy them as soon as possible.

Once it goes into force it will exert tremendous pressure both morally and politically on nuclear weapon states and their allied as well. They will be forced into corner as illegal power. It will inspire further antinuclear peace forces in the world to move forward toward the world without nuclear weapons.

The non-allied countries played a major role in the adoption of the Treaty. (105 countries including observers supported the Treaty). So far 79 countries have signed and 32 countries have ratified. The Trump administration and other nuclear powers are getting worried about the development, reinforcing their effort to block the ratification process. I sincerely call on the NAM countries not to give way to the pressure so as to proceed a prompt ratification.

I also would like the Summit to declare a support for the peace process going on in the Korean Peninsula. The process began last year led to the three consecutive summit meeting between North and South Korea and the historic US-North Korea Summit. Three leaders promised denuclearization

and establishment of peace regime in Korean Peninsula.

Their promise opened the door to establish the North East Asia Nuclear Free Zone. I would like to propose this Summit Meeting to endorse the three document agreed by the South and North Korean leaders, and the Singapore joint statement by the leaders of the US and North Korea.

3. understand the peoples fighting in the developed countries

Finally I would like to propose the Summit Meeting express understanding and support for the peoples movements in the developed countries. Most of them are fighting against military alliance which imposes heavy burden and danger of war on them.

In Japan the Abe administration has been reinforcing Japan-US military alliance and building up the Japanese Self Defense Forces. In response to the US demand the administration is stepping up the construction of a huge US military base in Okinawa against the popular will which has been unquestionably expressed by the consecutive elections in recent years.

The administration also bulldozed new security legislations which allows JSDF engage in the war outside Japanese territory in cooperation with US forces. The power base of the Abe administration is nationalists who dream of revitalizing the past Japanese imperial empire. They are characterized by historical revisionism that Japan's past colonial rule and war of aggression were right thing to do.

Japan AALA oppose Abe administration's policy, calling for a renunciation of Japan -US security treaty, embracing a vision of new Japan in the future joining Non Aligned Movement.

I conclude to express my gratitude for NAM leaders' understanding on the fight of Japanese people and look forward to hearing a message.

Thank you very much

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