



Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World
Peace Boat Hibakusha Project

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**Peace Boat's Hibakusha Project – 98th Voyage
(May-August 2018)**

Activity Report

Singapore

On Friday May 18, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation visited Foreign Ministry of Singapore and met a counter-proliferation officer (Mr. Teo Tze Ern). The delegation submitted a letter to FM in requesting to sign and ratify the TPNW. He welcomed the Hibakusha, saying he had heard their testimonies and understands the importance of the TPNW, which his country participated in the negotiation conference. He said that Singapore, an ASEAN member, is aware that Thai and Vietnam already ratified but, for its part, that it is investigating whether its joining the TPNW might affect its adherence to other treaties.

Colombo, Sri Lanka

On Wednesday May 23, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation visited Foreign Ministry of Sri Lanka in Colombo and met Secretary of the Ministry Mr Prasad Kariyawasam, who expressed his country's support for nuclear disarmament and his intention to create conditions for the country, through wide consultation among the public, to sign the TPNW "someday in the future."

Santorini, Greece

On June 5, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation visited Santorini's City Hall and met with City Hall representative, a member of Mayors for Peace. They also gave a testimony at an elementary school and gave an interview to the local television.

Athens, Greece

On June 6, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation met with Prime Minister Mr. Alexis Tsipras and Minister of State Mr Dimitris Tzanakopoulos. Tsipras said: "We need to continue to fight for a more peaceful world in order to avoid tragedies like the one that humanity lived in Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

On the side, Mr. Tzanakopoulos said he didn't know why Greece hasn't signed the TPNW but would investigate.

Cagliari, Italy

On June 9, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation met with Msr Arrigo Miglio and local campaigners, gave a public testimony and media interviews. Following their visit, the City Council of Cagliari (Sardinia) passed a resolution urging the Italian government to join the TPNW.

Paris, France

On June 14-15, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation was in Paris, where they met with ICAN-France, Mayors for Peace and Pugwash France representatives. They held meetings with several parliamentarians, including Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee Mr. Jean-Yves Lecoque

(Communist), Vice-President of the French Senate Mr. David Assouline (Socialist), and Ms. Sabine Rubin (France Insoumise). It was an opportunity to speak about the TPNW and led to several concrete actions, including references to Hibakusha and the TPNW in an official Parliamentary report – a first in France – and concrete plans to set up a “permanent parliamentary delegation on nuclear deterrence, non-proliferation and disarmament”. It has also led to discussion to send an official parliamentary delegation to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 2019.

Le Havre, France

On June 16, a public conference was held onboard Peace Boat, in cooperation with ICAN-France and Mayors for Peace, during which Hibakusha gave testimonies to about 70 participants and interacted with youth and children.

Stockholm, Sweden

On June 26, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation visited the Nobel Museum, where ICAN's 2017 Peace Prize is featured. They also had an informal meeting with local campaigners to discuss the Swedish position on the nuclear ban, role of women in the movement, youth opinions and more.

Copenhagen, Denmark

On June 28, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation met with members of the Danish Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, including the Chair of the Committee, Mr. Rasmus Nordqvist (the Alternative), Mr. Søren Søndergaard (the Red-Green Alliance) and Mr. Holger K. Nielsen (the Socialist People's Party) to discuss Denmark's position on the TPNW. Hibakusha collected their three signatures for ICAN's Parliamentary Pledge.

Bergen, Norway

On June 30, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation held a meeting with the City's Deputy Mayor for Social Affairs and Commissioner for Health and Social Inclusion, Mr. Erlend Horn, and member of ICAN-Norway Saima Naz Akhtar.

Reykjavik, Iceland

On July 4, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation met with the Foreign Minister of Iceland, Mr. Gudlaugur Thor Thordarson, who was accompanied by the Director General of the Foreign Ministry, Mr. Jorundur Valtysson, the Director Ms. Maria Mjoll Jonsdottir and Ambassador Thordur Aegir Oskarsson. They also held a meeting with the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Icelandic Parliament Ms Aslaug Arna Sigurbjornsdottir (Independence Party) and Foreign Affairs Committee member Mr Ari Trausti Gudmundsson (Left-Green Movement), as a parliamentary inquiry on the TPNW is being discussed in the Legislative Assembly.

Halifax, Canada

On July 10, an event was held onboard Peace Boat in cooperation with Mines Action Canada, as it called for the first time to Halifax. Hibakusha gave testimonies to members of Parliament – Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Matt Decourcey and Mr. Sean Fraser – a representative of the provincial government – Mr. Buddy Walzak, Director of International Relations for the Province of Nova Scotia – as well as representatives of Canadian NGOs including Mines Action Canada, the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation and Physicians for Global Survival.

New York, USA

On July 12-13, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation was in New York, where it visited the UN and met with representatives of some of the lead countries that brought about the TPNW, including Mr Philipp Charwath, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Mission of Mexico at the UN and Mr. Juan Saldoval Mendiola, Deputy Ambassador of the mission of Austria. The delegation also visited sites related to the

Manhattan Project and atomic bombs (Columbia University, Shinran Shonin at the New York Buddhist Church, the house where Oppenheimer grew up, First Headquarters of the MED). They paid a visit to the 911 Tribute Museum and exchange with the 911 survivors. A testimony session was held at Players Theater in collaboration with the Manhattan Project, a local group advocating for a nuclear-free world.

Havana, Cuba

On July 17, Hibakusha Forum for Nuclear Free World was co-organized by ICAP (Instituto Cubano del Amistad por los Pueblos) and the Cuba Peace Movement at the Superior Institute of International Relations. More than 150 students, young diplomats, doctors and activists participated and exchanged their opinions. Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation also visited the Cuban Association for the UN and exchanged with Cuban elderly people. A group of peace activists invited Hibakusha to the "Peaceful path" in Havana, where they organize a peace ceremony on 6th and 9th of August.

Cartagena, Colombia

On July 22, an event was held onboard Peace Boat, in cooperation with La Paz Querida (a GPPAC member) and Mi Sangre. Around 40 youth from remote areas from Cartagena -many of which were victims of the 53 years of conflict – took part in a day of exchange with Hibakushas and share also their own testimonies and experiences.

Panama City, Panama

On July 24, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation met with the General Secretary, the Director of Organisms and the Director of International Treaties, who confirmed that Panama is working hard towards ratification and right now is surveying the different stakeholders to see if there is any concern. They expect to be able to deposit their instrument of ratification on September 26. They also met with UNDP officials in Panama, the Vice-Minister of Social development Ms Maria Luisa Navarro and the Vice-Minister of Social Development (MIDES), Ms Michelle Muschett.

Puntarenas, Costa Rica

On July 26, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation participated in a forum at Costa Rica's Universidad Latina, where they gave testimonies in front of some 150 students. They also met with the press and gave media interviews.

Seattle, USA

On August 7, Peace Boat's Hibakusha delegation visited the first large-scale nuclear reactor ever built, the B-Reactor at the Hanford Site, where the plutonium used for the Nagasaki bomb (Fat Man) was produced. They exchanged and shared experiences with the staff there. They also met with Mr Tom Bailie, a Hanford downwinder and farmer, who has shared with the group his experiences of being exposed to radiation from Hanford.