



A delegation of Hibakusha (survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki), including first and third generation survivors and accompanied by Japanese experts and NGO activists, will participate in the Second Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons to be held in Nayarit, Mexico on 13-14 February, 2014.

At the governmental conference they will give testimony at a “Hibakusha Session” coordinated by Japan-based international NGO Peace Boat. They will also participate in various civil society meetings organized by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (<http://www.icanw.org/>).

\*The Hibakusha Session will include personal testimonies as well as the long-term medical, social and psychological impacts of nuclear weapons. A youth representative will also share the intergenerational effects from the perspective of the third generation.

Conference Program:

<http://www.sre.gob.mx/en/images/stories/cih/draftprogramme04febrero.pdf>

## ABOUT PEACE BOAT:

Peace Boat is a Japan-based, international NGO that has been working since 1983 to promote peace, human rights, equal and sustainable development and respect for the environment through global educational programs, cooperative projects and advocacy activities on global voyages. With Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, Peace Boat is also a partner organization of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

As part of the “Global Voyages for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project,” over 150 Hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) have travelled with Peace Boat to give personal testimonies about the effects of the atomic bombs and call for nuclear weapons abolition. As the average age of the Hibakusha is now close to 80 years old, the time remaining to directly hear their urgent message is very limited.



## SCHEDULE OF DELEGATION:

- **Ms. Setsuko THURLOW**  
Feb. 11-15 in Nayarit (English also)
- **Mr. Yasuaki YAMASHITA**  
Feb. 11-15 in Nayarit, Feb. 16-18 In Mexico City (Spanish also)
- **Mr Terumi TANAKA**  
Feb. 12-15 in Nayarit
- **Mr Toshiki FUJIMORI**  
Feb. 12-15 in Nayarit
- **Ms Masaki KOYANAGI**  
Feb. 11-15 in Nayarit, Feb. 16-18 In Mexico City
- **Ms Chiho KOZAKURA**  
Feb. 11-15 in Nayarit, Feb. 16-18 in Mexico City
- **Mr Akira KAWASAKI**  
Feb. 11-15 in Nayarit, Feb. 16-17 In Mexico City (English also)

# DELEGATION PROFILES



## **Ms. Setsuko THURLOW**

Setsuko Thurlow experienced the atomic bombing of Hiroshima as a 13-year old schoolgirl. She has since displayed great courage and leadership, sharing her experiences in order to sensitize people to the consequences of armed conflict on civilian populations and to promote lasting peace. She has been active for decades as a social worker in Toronto, and has initiated many anti-nuclear activities and international campaigns. In 2007, her long-term peace activities were recognized by being awarded the Order of Canada, Canada's highest civilian honour.



## **Mr. Yasuaki YAMASHITA**

Yasuaki Yamashita was born in Nagasaki in 1939, and experienced the atomic bombing when he was 6 years old, only 2.5 kilometres from the hypocentre. He worked for ten years at the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Hospital, and he tells of the pain to see survivors still suffering from the effects of burns and radiation even years later. In 1968, at the age of 29, Mr Yamashita immigrated to Mexico, where he still lives today. He has given testimony at schools, universities, cultural centres, museums and the Mexican Senate, as well as at the memorial ceremony organised by the Mexico City Government on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As far as he is aware, he is the only Japanese born Hibakusha living in Mexico.



## **Mr. Terumi TANAKA**

Secretary General, Japan Confederation of A-and H- Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) In 1945, Professor Tanaka was a 13 year old student at the Nagasaki Prefectural Junior High School. He experienced the atomic bombing at his house, 3.2 km from the hypocentre. The bombing at once took the lives of 5 of his relatives, and he was forced to cremate his aunt in an open field. A professor of Engineering, he has been involved in activities as a Hibakusha since 1974, and has been Secretary-General of the Japan Confederation of A- and H- Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) since 2000. Since speaking at the first UN Special Session on Disarmament in 1978, he has continued to speak out about the effects of nuclear weapons including at the UN Headquarters during NPT Review Conferences.



## **Mr. Toshiki FUJIMORI**

Vice Secretary General, Japan Confederation of A-and H- Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Nihon Hidankyo) Mr Fujimori experienced the bombing of Hiroshima at the age of 1 year 4 months. At the time he was together with his mother on the bank of a river, 2.3 kilometres from the hypocentre. Despite being near to death, he somehow survived. A family of 12, 8 family members were in Hiroshima at the time of the bombing, while 4 siblings were evacuated to the countryside at the time. Of these 8, an elder sister mobilised working close to the hypocentre's fate remains unknown, and another 6 of his members died of cancer. Mr Fujimori has been Director of the Nagano Prefecture Atomic Bomb Survivors Association since June 2010.



## **Ms. Masaki KOYANAGI**

15-year old Ms Koyanagi is a first year student at the Kwassui Senior High School in Nagasaki, and a third generation Hibakusha. Both her grandfather and grandmother experienced the atomic bombing. Hearing their stories of the bombings and later suffering, Ms Koyanagi began to participate in the 10,000 High School Students Signature Campaign, led by the Nagasaki Youth Peace Messengers, an organisation of high school students working for nuclear weapons abolition. As a third generation Hibakusha, she is determined to convey the pain which her grandparents and other Hibakusha suffered, and share with many people the message for a world free of nuclear weapons.



## **Mr. Akira KAWASAKI**

Mr. Akira Kawasaki is an Executive Committee member of the Tokyo-based NGO Peace Boat, and a Co-Chair of International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). He also serves as Coordinating Committee member of the global NGO network Abolition 2000. Since 2008, Kawasaki coordinates "Global Voyage for a Nuclear-Free World: Peace Boat Hibakusha Project" that the atomic-bomb survivors travel around the world to raise public awareness on nuclear danger. In 2009-2010, he served as an NGO Advisor to Co-Chairs of the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (ICNND). He lectures at Keisen University, Tokyo, and frequently writes in Japanese newspapers and journals on nuclear disarmament.