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MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO JAPANESE COUNCIL  
AGAINST ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS

Following is the text of a message from Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to the Japanese Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs (Gensuikyo). It is being read today, 5 August, by Sean Mac Bride, United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, to the World Congress against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs, being held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan.

On the occasion of the World Congress Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I wish to send my greetings to the Japanese Council Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs and to all participants.

Thirty years have passed since 1945, when the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki became the victims of the scourge of nuclear weapons. These tragedies are still fresh in our memory, and have implanted a trauma in the minds of not only the Japanese people but also of the peoples of the world.

The United Nations, also 30 years old, has since its inception constantly striven to achieve agreements for the reduction of armaments, both nuclear and conventional, and for general and complete disarmament. It has sought, in particular, to help bring about the elimination of the threat of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, which are a horror for all mankind.

Despite the achievement of some important arms limitation agreements, the nuclear arms race has not yet been effectively halted. This is a matter of great concern to me and efforts to attain this goal must be renewed and reinforced.

This World Congress is an important occasion for the Governments and peoples of the world to strengthen their determination to ban and destroy all the horrifying nuclear weapons and to redouble their efforts so that the tragedies of the past will not be repeated.

In this spirit, I extend to you my best wishes for the success of your Conference.

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