CD Plenary meeting on 6th June, 2024

Thematic discussion on “Building capacity in disarmament through education and research”

States-led Initiatives and efforts in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation education

ICHIKAWA Tomiko
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Japan to the CD
“The Conference recognizes the vital importance of educating and empowering individuals of all generations regarding the dangers of nuclear weapons and the imperatives to reach a world without nuclear weapons, including the risks and humanitarian consequences associated with nuclear weapons.”

“The Conference calls on States Parties to commit to take concrete measures to raise awareness of the public, in particular of younger and future generations, as well as of leaders, disarmament experts and diplomats, on all topics relating to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, including through interactions with and directly sharing the experiences of the peoples and the communities affected by nuclear weapons use and testing, to know their humanitarian and environmental impact.”

The Conference calls on States Parties to commit to empower and enable youth to participate in formal and informal initiatives and discussions related to nuclear disarmament.
Examples of Efforts through the NPT Review Process

■ 2010 NPT Review Conference
  • Joint WP submitted by Japan and UN University (NPT/CONF.2010/WP.6)
  • Joint statement by 42 countries*

  First inclusion of “disarmament and non-proliferation education” in the NPT final document (Action 22) (NPT/CONF.2010/50)

Action 22: All States are encouraged to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/57/124) regarding the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, in order to advance the goals of the Treaty in support of achieving a world without nuclear weapons.

■ 2015 NPT Review Conference
  • Joint statement by 76 countries*

■ 2022 NPT Review Conference
  • Joint statement by 89 countries*

* led by Japan
Examples of Efforts at the UNGA 1st Committee (1/2)

- Resolution “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education” adopted by consensus in 2000, led by Mexico (A/RES/55/33 E)

  UNSG Report in 2002 (A/57/124)

  Resolution adopted by consensus every two years (led by Mexico) (most recent one adopted in 2022 (A/RES/77/52)), requesting the SG to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and possible new opportunities.

  Important for the UN Member States to submit their views
Examples of Efforts at the UNGA 1st Committee (2/2)

- **Resolution on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons**
  paragraph on disarmament and non-proliferation education since 2002, **led by Japan** (2023: A/RES/78/40 “Steps to building a common roadmap towards a world without nuclear weapons” OP12)

- **Resolution “Youth, disarmament and non-proliferation”**
  adopted by consensus every two years since 2019, **led by ROK** (2023: A/RES/78/31)

- **Resolution “International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness”**
  Adopted by consensus in 2022, **led by Kyrgyzstan** (A/RES/77/51)
Examples of programmes for the young generation

Dialogue platforms, mentoring, internships, fellowships, scholarships, youth group activities, site-visits, interactions, etc.

- **The United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament** (since 1978, participation of more than 1033 public officials from 170 States)

- **Youth4Disarmament Initiative**
  (since 2019, led by ROK through UNODA, youth outreach initiative to connect young people with experts)

- **Youth Leader Fund for a world without nuclear weapons**
  (since 2023, led by Japan through UNODA, online courses and site visit to Hiroshima, Nagasaki)

- **UNIDIR Youth Disarmament Orientation Course**
  (since 2022, funded by ROK)

- **Young Professional Network of P5 academies**
  (since 2021, led by P5, academy networking)