



Special Event of the 2021 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of ECOSOC



Hiroshima Prefecture

Co-organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DESA/DSDG) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) New York Office

Nuclear Disarmament and Our Sustainable Future

Concept Note

Date and time : July 12 (Monday), 2:00pm ~ 3:30pm (EDT)

Platform: Online

Hiroshima Organization for Global Peace (HOPE)

Hiroshima Prefecture

Contents

1. Opening Remarks

Video Message by Governor Hidehiko YUZAKI, Hiroshima Prefecture (10 min.)

Session overview

2. Panel Discussion (75 min.)

Discussion among experts and a youth representative on SDGs, environment, human rights and nuclear disarmament issues

3. Closing Remarks (5 min.)

Concept

- ◆ In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic and other natural disasters such as forest fires and floods swept the globe. The need to establish international cooperation at various levels for global health and environment has never been so obvious.
- ◆ In order to achieve a sustainable and peaceful future for humankind and our planet, we must face and tackle with many challenges.
- ◆ In the Post COVID-19 era, we must “build back better” to create a resilient global society. The emphasis on the connection between the COVID-19 pandemic and nuclear weapons issues are to be discussed.
- ◆ The global spread of coronavirus revealed that such menace, previously seen as a mere hypothetical scenario, can so quickly materialize and dominate our reality.
- ◆ Learning from the COVID-19 pandemic, the international community must not only combat current crises, but also take preventative measures against potential threats, risks and vulnerabilities forthcoming.
- ◆ Nuclear weapons are a salient example of such. Single use of a nuclear weapon ensures great destruction and devastating effects on all efforts made towards the SDGs.
- ◆ Moreover, \$72.6 billion was spent on nuclear weapons worldwide in 2020. If we could repurpose that money to go forward with the SDGs, it would significantly help to “build back better “ the international community.

Panel Discussion

【Theme】

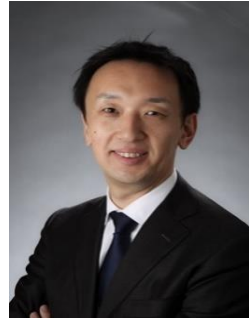
Nuclear Disarmament and Our Sustainable Future

Based on the commonalities found in “the COVID-19 pandemic” and “issues of nuclear weapons”, the panelists will discuss the interconnectedness of these two issues from an environmental, societal and economic perspective. The panel will argue how our engagement to nuclear disarmament could lead to achieve the SDGs and a sustainable future.

【Moderator】

Kunihiko SHIMADA

Principal Director
Hiroshima Organization
for Global Peace (HOPE)



【Youth Representative】

Kento SUZUKI

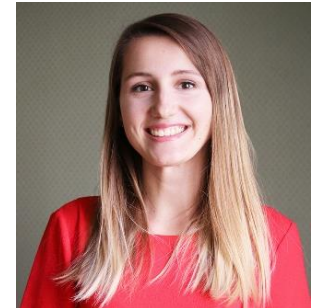
Chief Director
Personalization
Project



【Youth Representative】

Vanda PROSKOVA

Vice-Chair,
PragueVision
Institute for
Sustainable Security



【Nuclear Weapons Specialist】

Douglas SHAW

Senior Consultant
Nuclear Threat
Initiative (NTI)



【SDGs Specialist】

Nikhil SETH

United Nations
Assistant Secretary-
General, Executive
Director, UNITAR

