## NONNUCLEAR PEACE DECLARATION from JAPANESE ARTMILE YOUTH

We should not leave the critical problem of nuclear proliferation for someone else to solve. What can we do?

No more HIROSHIMA! No more NAGASAKI! No more HIBAKUSHA!

65 years ago, Hiroshima and Nagasaki were attacked with heat rays that burned in excess of 3000° centigrade. In a second the cities collapsed and turned into a sea of flames. Two hundred thousand innocent civilians were killed. When we see photos of the countless bodies burned and blackened and lying on the ground, we feel our hearts sink. Can you imagine? How hot? How painful?

What is worse, the radioactivity has caused terrible aftereffects and caused incredible suffering for radiation victims, suffering that has lasted for generations and continues to this day.

Nuclear weapons are never necessary. However, they still exist under the pretext of "the balance of power". It is said that nuclear weapons have become smaller to make them easier to use. Instead of expanding our knowledge of how to destroy life, we should put that effort into learning how to save life. We should empathize with our fellow humans and care for one another.

Countries threaten each other by possessing nuclear weapons. Can you call it a world in peace? Can you call the situation where people hurt each other in wars a peaceful world? We never want such a world. Our wish is to abolish all nuclear weapons on the planet.

We must never let the experiences of the victims of the atomic bombs fade from memory.

Now is the time for us to take action. Beyond differences of nationalities, races, languages, colors and religions, we can cooperate hand in hand to abolish nuclear weapons. However dim the individual light is, together we can glow brightly in our quest for peace. No matter how tiny each wish is, when many are gathered together, they become a great power.

Our strong wishes will change the world. Let us build a new world free from the sorrow of war. Let us build this world, not with military power but with respect for each other and for ourselves and a willingness to communicate.

No more HIROSHIMA! No more NAGASAKI! No more HIBAKUSHA!

We take this small step with the belief that it will lead to more small steps and more and more until together, as one people, as one world, we take that giant leap into a future free from the scourge of nuclear weapons and the shame of war.

In Egypt, September 2010 Youth Delegation of JAPAN ART MILE