

We call upon citizens and governments of Israel and Iran

April 10, 2012

The Committee of Seven for World Peace Appeal

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Since 1955, the Committee of Seven for World Peace Appeal has issued appeals from Japan repeatedly to promote peace on the international and domestic levels.

A military attack by Israel against the nuclear facilities of Iran is discussed openly as a possibility. In addition, a confrontation between the US and the Iranian navies and air forces in the Strait of Hormuz is an additional reason for concern, as it may cause unforeseeable consequences.

When we recall Israeli air raids, conducted disregarding international law, against an Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981 and against a Syrian one in 2007, we cannot but be worried by the possibility of an attack by the Israeli air force over Iranian nuclear facilities. Such attempt, we believe, may well escalate into a large scale war

We share with the international community a serious concern about the insufficient transparency on nuclear research, development and utilization both in Israel and in Iran. We urge the two countries to renounce immediately any activity of military R & D of nuclear power and production and stockpiling of nuclear weapons they already have or plan to do so in the future, and to release without restriction to the international community all information on their nuclear facilities and operations. It will be a great step toward the realization of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East which has been proposed eagerly by our Committee among others.

The present imposition of economic sanction by the international community not against Israel but only against Iran violates the principle of fair and equitable treatment of all states and leads no stable settlement. We cannot admit it for this very reason.

Further, the lack of diplomatic relations between Israel and many neighboring states

is a serious obstacle to the stability of the Middle East. This abnormal situation should be dissolved immediately by sincere efforts of both sides. We urge the concerned parties not to continue their confrontation of the past but to proceed, step by step, towards a desirable future in the Middle East through a peaceful cooperation of all parties involved. The improvement of relations between Israel and Palestine should be included among such efforts. We can affirm that this proposition is not a utopia but a realistic move in line with the historical progress of humankind. We find examples of such processes of reconciliation in the cases of the end of the cold war between the East and the West, the birth of the European Union and many other similar examples.

This appeal is based on the spirit of the Constitution of Japan, i. e., “all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want” and “no nation is responsible to itself alone and the laws of political morality is universal”. We believe that the Charter of the United Nations also bases itself on the above principles.

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