

## **Commitment to Peace**

All people want to live happy lives filled with hopes and dreams.

Fifty-three years ago, a single atomic bomb instantly destroyed the desires and aspirations of people doing their best to live for tomorrow. Loving family circles, whole neighborhoods so full of memories simply vanished, leaving profound sorrow and pain in many hearts.

Touring the Peace Memorial Museum and listening to the stories told by our grandparents, we have come to know the horror of the atomic bomb. We have also come to know the spirit of those who arose from the rubble and, guided by their intense desire for peace, rebuilt the beautiful city of Hiroshima. From these experiences, we have learned how precious peace is.

Why are nuclear weapons still in our world? Why are nuclear tests still being conducted?

With so many people calling for peace, why do conflicts keep happening in this world, in which children like us get hurt? Closer to home, we have friends who hurt each other with violence and bullying, friends who live with deep unhappiness.

Now, based on what we have learned, we need to work together to build a truly peaceful world in which everyone can live in comfort and safety, feeling joy in being alive.

To build such a world, each of us must learn to appreciate the value of life and have the courage to do the right thing in our daily lives. Are these not the first steps toward peace?

We hereby pledge that, as the children and the future of Hiroshima, we will continue to convey the horror of nuclear weapons. Then, clinging to our hopes and dreams, we pledge to join hands with friends from around the globe and do our best to spread throughout the world the desire to create true peace.

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