

## **World Nuclear Victims Forum Hiroshima Declaration Declaration on the Rights of World Nuclear Victims 2025**

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### **Hiroshima Declaration**

1. We are concerned that the world is now facing an increasing risk of nuclear war and further nuclear contamination. In the Ukraine war, the genocide in Gaza, and the crisis in the Middle East, threats to use nuclear weapons and to attack nuclear facilities such as nuclear power plants are made as a means of regional warfare, and the U.S. and British governments have provided depleted uranium munitions to Ukraine. As long as war persists, the urge to use nuclear weapons and the risk of nuclear war will only increase. We believe that now is the time to bring the voices of nuclear victims to the world, and that is why we are gathered here in Hiroshima on October 5th and 6th, 2025, in the year of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings by the United States.
2. We define nuclear victims (hibakusha) as follows: All victims of radiation exposure and radioactive contamination, including victims of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; victims of nuclear testing; victims of human experiments using nuclear materials; not distinguishing between victims of military and civilian nuclear use, those impacted by uranium mining, milling, and enrichment activities and those impacted by radioactive contamination from nuclear labor and environmental contamination of nuclear weapons-related activities and entire

- processes of nuclear energy and nuclear fuel such as nuclear development, use and waste; victims of nuclear power plant disasters; and victims of depleted uranium weapons that are produced from radioactive waste. We recognize that unless we end the nuclear age, humanity could become a nuclear victim (hibakusha) at any time, and we reaffirm that nuclear and humanity cannot coexist.
3. We acknowledge that uranium mining and milling, nuclear testing, and nuclear waste disposals have been conducted under ongoing colonial rule, discrimination, and oppression. We also acknowledge that use of nuclear technology is based on the social structure of inequality, discrimination, oppression, and exploitation, such as building nuclear power plants and nuclear fuel facilities in rural areas and forcing radiation exposure onto subcontracted workers at nuclear power plants. In particular, we acknowledge the history and current state of "nuclear colonialism" against Indigenous Peoples around the world, which excludes them from policy-making processes, violates their rights (including those related to their ancestral lands), oppresses them when they assert their individual or collective rights, and inflicts upon them the violence of radiation exposure, which can be considered a form of genocide. We acknowledge that the number of nuclear victims, whose environments have been contaminated with radioactivity and whose very foundations of human life have been taken away, continues to increase on a daily basis.
  4. We acknowledge that nuclear harm threatens not only the health of nuclear victims but also the livelihoods of the victims and their families, affecting entire communities and causing social and cultural impacts.
  5. We recognize that nuclear harm may have adverse effects on the health of future generations and beyond. We also acknowledge that the social and cultural impacts will continue to affect future generations and beyond. We also acknowledge that the use of nuclear technology has left behind a "nuclear legacy" for future generations, in the form of nuclear waste containing radionuclides including those with half-lives longer than the history of humankind.
  6. We acknowledge that nuclear harm can have detrimental effects not only on humankind but also on entire ecosystems, including humans, through radioactive contamination of the environment.
  7. We acknowledge that, as a result of the International Conferences on the Humanitarian Effects of Nuclear Weapons held in Oslo in 2013 and in Nayarit and Vienna in 2014, it is now internationally recognized that a nuclear weapon detonation would have catastrophic effects on the environment and climate, in addition to human health, welfare, and society, threatening even the survival of humanity and making it impossible to deal with.
  8. We define nuclear perpetrators as follows: This includes nuclear-armed countries and those who, through the use of nuclear weapons, have destroyed the foundations of human existence and created conditions that threaten the survival of all living things; the military-industrial-government-academia complex and its members, as well as the nations that support it; United Nations organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects

- of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), and organizations such as the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP), whose members are pro-nuclear scientists and have previously downplayed the effects of radiation exposure and concealed the true impacts of nuclear disasters; countries that promote nuclear energy policies; and shareholders and creditors of operators that caused radioactive contamination and manufacturers of nuclear power plants and other nuclear facilities. We strongly demand that nuclear perpetrators be held accountable for their actions and be required to pay compensation to victims. We also call for the acknowledgement that the promotion, support, and investment of nuclear-related industries, including the export of nuclear power plants and the import of uranium, have the risk of violating human rights and destroying the environment.
9. We strongly condemn the long history of nuclear perpetrators downplaying the risks of radiation exposure to protect the interests of the nuclear industry. We call for the implementation of radiation risk assessments that support the positions of nuclear victims, nuclear-affected communities, and all peoples, including future generations, and the global environment. Regarding the impact on future generations, based on the results of basic research, such as animal experiments, it has been clearly shown that the "genetic effects cannot be denied" and that "there is a risk" in humans as well. We also recognize that there is no threshold of radiation exposure below which the human body is not affected, and that any dose of radiation has late onset health risks. This has become increasingly clear, for example, through INWORKS, an international epidemiological study of workers in the nuclear sector. We recognize that, due to the difficulty of estimating internal radiation doses, perpetrators attempt to deny, ignore, and dismiss the health effects of internal radiation exposure.
  10. We welcome the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in January 2021, which defines nuclear weapons as illegal under international law and obligates States Parties to provide victim assistance and environmental remediation. The Treaty was established based on the experiences of atomic bomb survivors, who have been fighting against the extreme inhumanity of nuclear war, and victims of nuclear tests, as well as the movements that support them. However, contrary to the appeals of atomic bomb survivors that nuclear abolition cannot be achieved without providing relief to nuclear victims around the world, we are concerned that the Treaty describes nuclear victims as only those affected by the "use or testing of nuclear weapons," thereby ignoring the suffering of all other hibakusha (nuclear victims), including those involved in uranium mining, milling, enrichment, and nuclear waste disposal, especially Indigenous Peoples. We cannot accept the clause that the so-called "peaceful uses" of nuclear energy are an inalienable right. We also acknowledge critical issues, such as its failure to clearly identify perpetrators or hold them accountable for their actions. We believe it is important to collaborate with nuclear victims to correct these problems through the power of peoples around the world, and to further strengthen the global movement to ban nuclear weapons and to assist nuclear victims.
  11. We are concerned that the first Nuclear Energy Summit led by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was held in March 2024, where 32 countries, including those without nuclear power plants, declared their commitments to promoting nuclear energy; furthermore, that the global nuclear industry is promoting nuclear energy as a climate solution at the Conference of the Parties to the United

- Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; in addition, uranium mining and other activities are becoming more active in the United States, a nuclear-armed state, and Kazakhstan, a country that was victimized by nuclear testing; and that an increasing number of countries in the global south are seeking nuclear energy technology, including uranium enrichment technology. We are also concerned that spent nuclear fuel from nuclear reactors contains fissile materials such as plutonium that can be used in nuclear weapons, posing risks of terrorism, theft, and nuclear proliferation, as well as the possibility of nuclear technology being diverted for military purposes.
12. We call for an immediate halt, based on the precautionary principle, of the disposal of contaminated water containing radionuclides (radioactive wastewater) into the Pacific Ocean from Tokyo Electric Power Company's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, which began on August 24, 2023, and will continue for at least the next 30 years. The release of radioactive wastewater into the ocean violates the right to health, livelihood, and culture of all peoples who share the Pacific Ocean, particularly Japanese fishers and the many indigenous peoples living on Pacific Islands.
  13. We acknowledge that the Tokyo Atomic Bomb Tribunal Judgment (December 1963) found that the U.S. atomic bombings were a violation of international law, and that the International Court of Justice issued an advisory opinion (July 1996) stating that "there is an obligation to pursue in good faith and to conclude negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control." Based on this advisory opinion, in April 2014, the government of the Republic of Marshall Islands, where peoples were affected by nuclear testing, filed a lawsuit against nine nuclear-armed states at the International Court of Justice. However, it is extremely regrettable that the lawsuit was dismissed in October 2016. Since then, the peoples of the Marshall Islands have continued to speak out about the nuclear legacy at United Nations organizations, and as a result, the 51/35 resolution on the impact of nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council (October 2022). Based on an investigation on this resolution, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in its report to the UN Human Rights Council urged the US government to make a formal apology and provide compensation for past, present, and future human rights violations. We also welcome the call for the full disclosure of relevant records and for support for the Marshallese government to take measures based on nuclear justice, such as monitoring all contaminated areas and environmental restoration, in order to prevent human rights violations caused by the nuclear legacy.
  14. We must not forget that atomic bomb survivors from the Korean Peninsula came to Japan because they could no longer make a living in their homeland under Japanese colonial rule, or they were taken to Japan as forced laborers and suffered the effects of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We strongly support the Korean Atomic Bomb Victims Association, which was established in 1967, in its pursuit of accountability for the actions committed by the U.S. government that dropped the atomic bombs, the American companies involved in manufacturing the bombs, and the Japanese government, as well as the Korean government for neglecting its responsibility to provide assistance to its own atomic bomb survivors. We also call for the immediate resolution, including the restoration of diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, of the issue of the Japanese government's

- neglect of providing assistance to atomic bomb survivors who returned to the northern side of the Korean Peninsula (now the Democratic People's Republic of Korea) after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, leaving them without assistance.
15. We strongly support the convening of an International People's Tribunal by Korean atomic bomb survivors and their supporters in New York City in November 2026 to hold the U.S. government accountable for the illegality of the atomic bombings under international law and to demand accountability and an apology from the government.
  16. We stand in solidarity with the actions of people in nuclear-affected communities in Japan who are taking the government and nuclear perpetrators to court, seeking compensation, assistance, and guarantees of no future nuclear harm, including the Nagasaki Hibaku-Taikensha Lawsuit, the subsequent Black Rain Lawsuit, the lawsuits filed by Japanese fishers impacted by nuclear testing in the Pacific, the second generation atomic bomb survivors' lawsuit, the ALPS-Treated Contaminated Water Injunction Lawsuits, the 3.11 Children's Thyroid Cancer Lawsuit, and lawsuits filed by the nuclear disaster victims, evacuees, and nuclear radiation exposure workers. We also stand in solidarity with people in nuclear-affected communities around the world who are calling for similar actions.
  17. We recall that the First World Conference of Nuclear Victims called for criminal liability on the part of nuclear-armed states and the nuclear industry (New York Resolution, 1987) and held the military-industrial complex accountable for compensation (Berlin Resolution, 1992), and that the World Uranium Hearing, where Indigenous Peoples participated, called on governments, their responsible departments, international corporations and other entities, organizations, communities, and individuals to recognize the inherent right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination to protect them from the physical and cultural genocide caused by nuclear development, to take responsibility for the damage caused, and to provide compensation to the victims (Salzburg Declaration, 1992). Furthermore, we acknowledge that the International People's Tribunal for the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (July 2007) found all 15 defendants guilty, including President Truman.
  18. We demand that the perpetrators acknowledge responsibility and apologize, provide compensation for past damage, provide social security for nuclear victims and nuclear-affected communities, and guarantee that no further nuclear harm will be caused on the earth. We also strongly demand that they reflect on their past acts of aggression.
  19. To protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples impacted by harms caused by radioactive contamination, we urge all governments to comply with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which affirms the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and their rights regarding the environment and development.
  20. We recognize that nuclear harm is the greatest environmental destruction. Noting the Aarhus Convention 1998 (the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters), we affirm that access to a clean and healthy environment, access to information, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice are universal human rights. We welcome the recognition by the United Nations Human Rights Council in

- October 2021 that a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is a universal human right, and the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly in July 2022 of a resolution declaring access to a clean and healthy environment to be a universal human right, supported by 161 countries and regions, including Japan and nuclear-armed countries such as the United States. The resolution calls on governments, institutions, organizations, and businesses to scale up their efforts to protect a healthy environment for all. We call on governments, international and national organizations, and corporations to commit to a healthy environment for all.
21. We recall the preamble of the Constitution of Japan, which states, "We recognize that all peoples of the world have the right to live in peace, free from fear and want."
  22. It is utterly deceitful to describe nuclear power generation and the nuclear fuel cycle as "peaceful uses of nuclear." In 1953, U.S. President Eisenhower further promoted the development of nuclear weapons and sought international dominance in the pursuit of economic profits through nuclear power generation (civilian uses of nuclear energy) by converting military reactors to generate electricity and making the "Atoms for Peace" declaration at the United Nations. We recognize that the "military use of nuclear" and the "civilian use of nuclear" are intricately linked through the nuclear industry, and that every stage of nuclear use, including radioactive weapons using depleted uranium, has created many nuclear victims. We demand the immediate halt and abolition of all processes related to nuclear use, from uranium mining to nuclear waste management, including nuclear fuel production, nuclear power generation, and reprocessing, whether military or civilian, excluding medical uses.
  23. We call for a ban on the production, possession and use of weapons made from depleted uranium.
  24. We recognize that as long as nuclear technology is used, it is impossible to prevent radioactive disasters, there is no prospect of treating and disposing of the ever-increasing amount of nuclear waste, and nuclear contamination continues long-term and is irreversible, making it impossible to restore the environment to its original state. Therefore, we recognize that humanity must not use nuclear energy.
  25. We have confirmed that, with the momentum of this World Nuclear Victims Forum, we are committed to sharing information about nuclear victims, disseminating it through various means, including art and media, and together we fight in solidarity.
  26. Based on the outcomes of the World Nuclear Victims Forum in 2015 and this World Nuclear Victims Forum in 2025, we hereby adopt this Hiroshima Declaration to share with the world the following Declaration on the Rights of World Nuclear Victims 2025.

## **Declaration on the Rights of World Nuclear Victims 2025**

### **1. Purpose of the Declaration**

- 1) The Declaration of the Rights of Nuclear Victims 2025 is a human rights declaration that aims to establish the rights and reparations of nuclear victims.
- 2) The Declaration demands accountability for nuclear actors, establishing rights and reparations for nuclear victims, and provides guidelines for the movement for the elimination of nuclear harm.

- 3) To establish rights and reparations for nuclear victims, the Declaration provides concrete policy proposals across multiple aspects and will advocate them to engage with the international community, governments, and parliaments.
- 4) The Declaration is prepared and confirmed in collaboration with nuclear victims and their allies to reflect the voices of nuclear victims in diverse nuclear-affected communities which are impacted by nuclear weapons, nuclear power plants, uranium activities, radioactive waste, and the entire nuclear fuel chain and related oppression.

## **2. Definition of Nuclear Victims**

Nuclear victims are:

All victims of radiation exposure and radioactive contamination, including victims of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki; victims of nuclear testing; victims of human experiments using nuclear materials; not distinguishing between victims of military and civilian nuclear use, those impacted by uranium mining, milling and enrichment activities and those impacted by radioactive contamination from nuclear labor and environmental contamination of nuclear weapons-related activities and entire processes of nuclear energy and nuclear fuel such as nuclear development, use and waste; victims of nuclear power plant disasters; and victims of depleted uranium weapons that are produced from radioactive waste.

## **3. Basic Rights**

Until we end the nuclear age, any person anywhere could at any time become a nuclear victim (hibakusha), and we confirm that **nuclear and humanity cannot coexist**.

Every person has the right to demand the following rights to prevent ongoing and future nuclear harm:

- 1 Not to be exposed to ionizing radiation other than that which occurs in nature or is for medical purposes under informed agreement.
- 2 Prohibition of coerced labor involving potential exposure to ionizing radiation, and when labor involving such potential exposure cannot be avoided, such exposure be minimized.
- 3 Minimization of medical exposure to ionizing radiation.
- 4 Accurate information, instead of that which is intentionally falsified, regarding the dangers of ionizing radiation exposure through school and community education be provided. This information includes the following: the fact that no level of radiation exposure is without health risk and that children and fetuses are especially sensitive to radiation exposure relative to adults. Furthermore, in terms of reproductive health, special consideration should be given to the effects of radiation exposure on maternal people who currently or in the future play an important role in pregnancy, childbirth, and neonatal care. Therefore, the standards currently adopted by the nuclear industry for the health effects of radiation exposure on the human body, based solely on the “adult male model,” are decisively inaccurate in that they do not consider the health effects on children and women.

5 Not only in the event of an accident, but also in normal times, the environmental risk assessment of nuclear facilities must be transparently disclosed along with information on radiation protection measures and treatment methods.

6 To participate in the decision-making processes of relevant policies:

The participation of stakeholders and rights holders in the decision-making processes should be accessible, inclusive, non-discriminatory and transparent in the event of implementing relevant national plans and policies.

Informed consent (informed agreement with stakeholders and rights holders) must provide stakeholders with the knowledge and tools necessary to understand the nature and extent of the risks involved in relevant national and local policies, as well as opportunities for notification and public comment.

Agreements on policy decisions require monitoring and advocacy to ensure policy and the practice of nuclear justice, and that such consent should not be coerced.

Nuclear justice includes the disclosure of information on nuclear harm, recognition as a nuclear victim, apology by the nuclear actors, pursuit of accountability for the perpetrator, victim assistance and reparation for nuclear victims, environmental restoration of contaminated areas, prevention of recurrence, and nuclear abolition.

7 Recognize the legitimacy of the lived experiences and testimonies of nuclear-impacted individuals and affected communities and incorporate their findings into the public literature in addition to radiation and victim assistance policies.

8 Formulate relevant policies based on the precautionary principle and a humanitarian perspective.

9 Refuse the construction, operation or restarting of nuclear facilities, because there is no final disposal site to store high-level radioactive waste generated from nuclear facilities.

10 In order to prevent further nuclear harm to future generations, the disposal of radioactive waste, such as high-level radioactive waste, decontaminated soil, and contaminated water, shall be carried out under the responsibility of the present generation, and shall not be left for future generations.

#### **4. To ensure the health and livelihood of nuclear victims**

##### **a. The right to medical care**

Regardless of whether the victims currently have health issues or not, if there are the fact of exposure (regardless of the dose of radiation exposure) and the possibility of health risks from radiation exposure, victims have the right to protect their health and receive medical care as a nuclear victim.



This is a standard based on p. 151 of the ruling by the Hiroshima High Court on July 14, 2021 of the Black Rain Lawsuit as an interpretation of Article 1, Item 3 of the Hibakusha Assistance Law (that recognized black rain victims as atomic bomb survivors), that decided that "it is sufficient to prove that the exposure was under a specific form of exposure and that the mode of exposure could not be ruled out that atomic bomb radiation caused health hazards."

Ensure that victims are fully informed and free to give consent before receiving medical care.

If the research study is conducted during treatment, the code of ethics and research standards must be respected to protect those who are under such study.

- b. Right to victim assistance
- c. Right to life and health
- d. Ensure the right to participate in the relevant policy decision-making processes.
- e. The right to access to effective judicial processes or other appropriate assistance at both the national and international levels in the event of violations of the rights of nuclear victims.

## **5. Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

- a. To support the fight to eliminate discrimination, oppression, and colonialism against Indigenous Peoples, and based on the perspective that respect for the right to life and the right to self-determination are inalienable, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples presents the minimum standard in formulating the rights of nuclear-impacted Indigenous Peoples.

## **6. Rights of nuclear workers**

- a. Right to receive workers' compensation, radiation protection and health management, and information on risks associated with radiation exposure.

This includes the right to receive workers' compensation for damage that has already occurred, management of daily radiation exposure and radiation protection measures and health management to minimize the exposure dose, education and training on radiation protection, and radiation exposure risk.

- b. Right to receive radiation dose measurements and routine health checkups.  
Be mindful of special circumstances where nuclear workers are regularly employed while their radiation doses are measured and controlled. Nuclear workers should be provided with relevant information about the daily radiation doses and knowledge of the consequences and health effects of radiation exposure. In order to investigate the effects on health, workers have access to routine health checkups.
- c. Right to receive radiation dose management and long-term health management.  
Be mindful of the necessity of health management associated with decommissioning, nuclear waste management, and other disposal-related activities such as "decontamination" and transportation, and that impacts on

workers from exposure can be long-term. Nuclear workers have the right to health management, and access to medical care should last for a lifetime, even after leaving their jobs. They have the right to possess a certificate issued by a public authority certifying such rights.

d. Right to receive information on risks associated with tasks involving hazardous radiation exposure and the right to refuse certain nuclear tasks.

Nuclear workers have the right to be given sufficient information and knowledge in advance about the risks of work involving hazardous radiation exposure. Risks such as mortality and disability rates must be disclosed in advance if workers receive the “permissible” radiation doses. Whether or not to engage in such tasks must be freely chosen by workers on a case-by-case basis.

e. Right to refuse risky radiation-exposing work and the right not to be subjected to discrimination of any kind.

In the event of refusing to work in a radiation-exposed environment or reaching the radiation dose limit, guarantee work at an alternative workplace based on the request of the person concerned. Even if a worker refuses to work, they should not suffer a disadvantage under the labor contract. Regardless of their employment status, whether they are military or civilian, prime contractor or subcontractor, they have the right not to be discriminated against. In nuclear power plant labor, a structure that imposes radiation exposure, such as a multi-layered subcontracting structure, is not allowed, and such a structure must be abolished. Until such a structure is abolished, the prime contractor must sincerely work to compensate for the right of low-end workers.

f. Ensure the right to participate in decision-making processes of relevant policies.

g. Ensure that workers are not subject to penalties such as repression, discrimination, dismissal, or retaliation for claiming their rights.

h. Operators of nuclear facilities are required to accurately record and store relevant data in the event of accidents that release radioactivity.

i. Operators of nuclear facilities are required to clearly identify the person responsible for the record-keeping and management of radiation exposure data and disclose such data at any time at the request of nuclear victims who were exposed to radiation.

j. An operator who employed a worker in violation of the above clause shall not be exempted from liability for civil damages or administrative and criminal penalties.

**7. Rights of residents (Radiation exposure to the general public. Include residents near uranium-related facilities and nuclear facilities, downwinders of nuclear tests, downwinders and those who reside near nuclear power plants or nuclear facilities in cases of grave disasters, etc.)**

All peoples exposed to ionizing radiation have the following rights:

- a. Regardless of the dose of exposure, if a person receives additional exposure without their consent, except for the medical exposure described below, they should be recognized as a nuclear victim (hibakusha). In many cases, it is difficult

to estimate the exact amount of radiation exposure dose of an individual, so if there is circumstantial evidence that the person was in a nuclear-impacted area, entered such an area, or received radioactive fallout, the person should be recognized as a nuclear victim.

- b. Nuclear victims (hibakusha) have a right to information on the radiation dose they have been exposed to.
- c. Nuclear victims (hibakusha) have a right to accurate information and knowledge related to the effects of their exposure on their physical, genetic, and psychological health.
- d. Right to request the disclosure of relevant information. Regarding information on radiation safety, since it affects the life and body of peoples and future generations and such information impacts on the exercise of the right to life, the interests of the state, the military, and the nuclear industry must not take precedence over this, and everyone should be able to request the disclosure of information.
- e. Right to information on risks. The mortality and disability risks, in the event that the general public receives the permissible radiation dose, must be disclosed in advance.
- f. Right to seek advice from independent scientists and experts who have knowledge and experience in assessing the human health and environmental impacts of radiation exposure.
- g. Right to seek risk-reduction and radiation protection measures to minimize future radiation exposure.
- h. Right to receive routine health checkups and the best medical care at no cost to them for all diseases that may be caused by radiation exposure. Diseases are not limited to malignant diseases such as cancer and leukemia but also non-cancer diseases.
- i. Nuclear victims (hibakusha) have the right to receive the best possible preventive care to overcome illnesses that may be caused by their radiation exposure.
- j. Perpetrators have the burden of proof to show the lack of causation between illnesses and radiation exposure. Perpetrators should compensate if they cannot prove that the victims' illnesses are not related to radiation exposure.
- k. Based on the precautionary principle, recognize that any low-dose exposure carries the risk of late onset harm according to the dose, and a legal principle shall be established that a causal relationship is presumed between radiation exposure and the health impacts of the victims.
- l. In the case of late onset or genetic disorders due to radiation exposure, the passage of time does not affect the right to seek compensation. The perpetrators must not claim the statute of limitations.
- m. In the case of nuclear accidents at nuclear facilities (including nuclear reactor sites and uranium-related facilities) that release a large amount of radioactivity into the environment, states must recognize:
  - Right to preventative and protective measures to protect from exposure to toxic pollution, including ionizing radiation, the right to evacuate for evacuees and those who relocate, assistance to compensate for any loss due to environmental contamination, assistance to rebuild livelihoods, and the right to receive compensation for the damage or collapse of entire communities, livelihoods and culture.

- The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State. Special consideration is needed for children, unborn babies, and pregnant people. No actors may prevent a relative from freely taking the fully informed risk of radiation exposure in order to rescue relatives.
- Right to receive treatment and radiation recovery measures for residents of contaminated areas and those who choose to return to contaminated areas. This includes a guarantee to provide food, drinking water, health and medical care, housing, education and information, and recuperation opportunities.

n. Strengthen compensation laws of impacted states to meet the needs and interests of members of affected communities.

o. Right to evacuate and relocate from radiation-contaminated areas, and the right to choose to return or settle elsewhere with a sense of safety and dignity.

p. Rights under the UN Charter and core international instruments and related regional, national, or local instruments should be guaranteed when persons or peoples, including stateless or refugee peoples, are displaced by nuclear harm.

- In regard to internally displaced persons who evacuated from radiation-impacted areas, there should be a right to receive assistance and reparation equally regardless of whether they are ordered to evacuate by the state or evacuate voluntarily. It is recommended that this be implemented in national laws, local ordinances, and administrative rules.
- Displaced persons should be guaranteed the right to participate in decision-making processes of plans based on relevant policies regarding return, resettlement to another land, and family and community reintegration.

## **8. Exposure to ionizing radiation in medicine**

- a. All peoples have the right to demand minimization of medical exposure to ionizing radiation.
- b. Patients have the right to make their own decisions after receiving a full explanation on the health risks of radiation exposure and the benefits to patients in protecting their lives and health. (Informed consent)
- c. It is necessary to provide re-education (re-training) to medical institutions and medical personnel regarding radiation exposure and low dose radiation exposure, in order to prevent exposure harms of patients and medical professionals.
- d. Do not prioritize the economic interests of the health care industry and private medical institutions.