



Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms

日本反核法律家協会

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March 1, 2016

Your excellency Mr. Tony de Brum,

Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (JALANA), a lawyers' organization whose purpose is abolition of nuclear weapons and support for nuclear victims, hereby delivers a message of solidarity to you, who is present at the March 1 Bikini Day events in Shizuoka, Japan.

As the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), you filed the "Nuclear Zero Lawsuits" before the International Court of Justice. The Lawsuits against nuclear-armed states have brought great encouragement to us, lawyers and citizens in Japan.

The reason is that the RMI, a small country, has sued the nuclear powers before the International Court of Justice in order to demand compliance with international law. The Charter of the United Nations reaffirms the equal rights of nations large and small, but the international community is controlled by the will of powers in fact. In some cases, stark violence goes ahead of judicial settlement.

In such a situation, the "Nuclear Zero Lawsuits" are expected to bring a new prospect for the momentum toward the nuclear weapons abolition.

Though JALANA has already expressed its support for the "Nuclear Zero Lawsuits," I hereby honor your initiative of ingenuity once again, and would like to tell you that we will provide as much support as possible to make the "Nuclear Zero Lawsuits" a great success.

We hope your success in the upcoming oral proceedings of the International Court of Justice.

Very respectfully yours,

Takeya Sasaki

President of Japan Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms