

# World Federalist Movement of Japan



## 2010 Member Organization Activity Report

**2010 Council Meeting**  
**World Federalist Movement**

Buenos Aires

4-8 October 2010

1. November 22, 2009

*The 28<sup>th</sup> WFM Japan National Congress held in the City of Kanawaza*



As announced, on 22 November 2009 the World Federalist Movement of Japan (WFMJ) held its 28<sup>th</sup> National Congress at the grand city hall of Kanazawa City, in Ishikawa Prefecture. Entitled *“Towards Realization of a World Federation: Contemplating the Path Towards a Global Welfare Society,”* the event was hosted by The Japan Association for World Federation (JAWF) and sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ishikawa Prefectural Government, the City of Kanazawa, the Hokkoku Shimbun News Agency, and NHK Kanazawa Broadcasting Division. Over 600 people from all over Japan participated in the event.

Following the opening statement by the Chairman, a moment of silence was dedicated to the late WFM Japan President Mitsunori Ueki (passed away in July) and his colleagues who have spent their entire lives serving for the cause of the movement, and for all those who have lost their lives by the cause of armed conflicts, natural disasters or famine over the year.

The event featured a keynote speech by **Prof. Takehiko Uemura** of Yokohama City University on the possibility of the introduction of a global solidarity tax to fund sustainable global welfare system, and a panel discussion moderated by Prof. Uemura inviting influential young experts from various field that impact the process of building peace and maintaining an international community based on rule of law.

List of panelists:

- **Mr. Yu Tanaka**, President of Future Bank Business Union
- **Ms. Kanae Doi**, Attorney at Law and Tokyo Director of Human Rights Watch
- **Mr. Takahiro Katsumi**, WFM Executive Committee Member and (then) Foreign Policy Aide to Senator Tadashi Inuzuka

2. March 3, 2010

*Former Prime Minister Mr. Kaifu accepts the Presidency of WFM Japan*



H.E. Mr. Toshiki Kaifu has accepted to assume the Presidency of WFM Japan. On 3 March 2010, A delegation led by **Acting President Mr. Utsunomiya** and then **Council Chairman Mr. Takagi** visited Mr. Kaifu's office to express formal appreciation for his acceptance to assume the Presidency, and gave a preliminary explanation of his responsibilities.

The approval of Mr. Kaifu as Eighth President of WFM Japan will be formally decided in the next annual Congress to be held in Hokkaido this October. Meanwhile, Honorable Mme. Moriyama, the former President of the Japanese Parliamentary Committee for World Federation (JPCWF) would serve as Acting President of WFM Japan to support Mr. Kaifu.

**Message from the President:**

*It is truly an honor to accept the role of the Eighth President of WFM Japan. I know that my predecessor has excelled in his work by realizing the world's first parliamentary resolution supporting the establishment of World Federation, and Japan's accession to the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court. By curious coincidence, his long partner, Honorable Mme. Moriyama, introduced me to this job. Our friendship goes way back in the 90's when I became Prime Minister of Japan and asked her to join the cabinet as Chief of the Cabinet. As she has served as President of JPCWF for a long time, Mme. Moriyama's assistance would be invaluable for me as I take on the role of the President of this organization. I look forward to working with my friends in the world to realize a lasting peace through the establishment of a world federation.*

*Toshiki Kaifu, President of WFM Japan*

**Profile of the President:** Born in 1931 in Nagoya (Aichi Pref), since 1960 Honorable Mr. Kaifu *served* as a lawmaker in the National Diet until 2009 when he chose to honorably retire from his political career. *Receiving* a law degree from Waseda University Graduate School, he *served* in the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) administration as Cultural Minister in 1976 and 1985, and then was *inaugurated* as the Prime Minister of Japan in 1989 and 1990, respectively. In 1994, he departed from the the LDP and was invited to join the New Frontier Party (NFP) as its first President. In 1998, he left the NFP and *served* as the Supreme Advisor of the Liberal Party in 1999, the Conservative Party in 2000, and the New Conservative Party in 2002, respectively. He *rejoined* the LDP in 2003 and remained in his seat at the House of Representatives of the National Diet until his honorable retirement in August 2009.

3. May 16, 2010

*WFM 21th Century Forum invites an expert for a forum on global tax*

On May 16, one of the new active WFM Japan branches, The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Forum of WFMJ (Forum21), held its sixteenth lecture series centering on the issue of global tax. **Prof. Takehiko Uemura**, Associate Professor at the International College of Arts and Sciences of Yokohama City University and expert in the field of global governance, public policy and sustainable development, delivered his lecture entitled, “*Global Tax: The future of Global Governance*”. The lecture centered on the issue of global gaps between the haves and have-nots, where 1 percent of the earth’s population haves the 40 percent of the wealth, and how this issue should be dealt through the establishment of global governance supported by innovative ideas.

WFM Japan considers the introduction of the global tax into the world’s financial system as an important basis for the establishment of global governance. A global tax is a tax collected from the activities of a state on the basis of an objective that is beyond the scope of a single state; a global finance provided for a global cause. Several types of global tax has been proposed, including international aviation tax (IAT), currency transaction tax (CTT), and environmental (carbon) tax. Since global aviation tax has already been adopted by more than 20 major countries around the world, WFM Japan believes that the introduction of the IAT and CTT can go in tandem, only in distinct phases.

One of the primary reasons that WFM Japan supports the currency transaction tax is the expected amount of revenue that could cover the cost for achieving the UN Millinneeium Development Goals (MDGs). The world is in deep need for an innovative financing mechanism that will allow for the achievement of MDGs. CTT is expected to produce more revenues than other forms of taxes. Another reason is that CTT would prompt for an effective and transparent global governance body that would manage the use of the tax revenues. A World Federation or an effective World Government can only be based on an administrative body that governs the collection of taxes. Therefore, the introduction of CTT would be an ideal prelude for that purpose. In addition, the independent taskforce of the 60-nation Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development has recently published a report recommending to introduce a global financial transaction tax similar to CTT. We believe the time is ripe to seek international consensus on the adoption of a global tax.

**Profile of the Lecturer:** Born in the city of Osaka in 1965, prior to his current position, Prof. Uemura has held positions at the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). He has worked at the Nara University as a full-time Lecturer, at the CSR Institute as a Senior Researcher, and at the Chiba University as Associate Professor. While also serving as Director of Centre for Global Programmes at his university, he is a member of the Taskforce on International Financial Transaction for Development in the multinational Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development, representing the Japanese Commission for the Promotion of International Solidarity Levies which was set up by the Japanese Parliamentarians for International Solidarity Levies (JPISL) in 2009. His recent publications include “*(Potential of Global Tax)*”, Minerva-Shobo, 2009; “*(How to Solve Global Poverty)*”, Gendai Toshio, 2007 (both in Japanese).



4. May 25, 2010

*WFMJ parliamentary committee meets before the ICC Review Conference*



On 25 May, members of the Japanese Parliamentary Committee for World Federation (JPCWF) met in the House of Councillors building for a final pre-conference briefing before the ICC Review Conference that was to be held in Kampala, Uganda from 31 May to 11 June. The meeting was held with the aim to have an updated briefing and exchange on the policies of the government as well as potential issues raised by the civil society.

Presiding as the chair of the meeting, **JPCWF President Rep. Kansei Nakano** was accompanied by **WFMJ President Mr. Toshiki Kaifu** to hear the government's views presented by Ministry of Foreign Affairs representative, then Division Chief Mr. Masataka Okano of the International Legal Affairs Division at the International Legal Affairs Bureau of the Ministry. The briefing centered on the following three items:

1. Crime of Agression: whether the authority to determine the act would reside in the UN Security Council.
2. Provisions in Article 124: whether GOJ will support the deletion of the article.
3. The Belgian proposal on adding toxic substance and gases in the list of prohibited weapons

Representatives of the civil society such as the Japanese Network for the ICC (JNICC) and Human Rights Now (HRN) engaged in a heated discussion over these topics. For example for item 1, an opinion was raised in support of ICC's independent authority over that of the UN Security Council in determining the Crime of Aggression. For item 2, the government representative explained that the deletion of article 124 is improbable due to the difficult conditions required for the removal. For item 3, the civil society representatives explored the possibility of including nuclear weapons, antipersonnel landmines, depleted uranium cells, and cluster munitions in the list of prohibited weapons. Concerns were also raised on the rate of low accession in the Asian region and for the lack of universality of the Court as most cases were based in Africa.

Parliamentarians addressed these issues by suggesting the following:

1. On item 1, the ICC should maintain its impartiality by being free from the political influence of the Security Council;
2. On item 2, the ASP should focus on increasing the membership of ICC through making compromises such as this;
3. On item 3, on the matter of inhuman use of weapons, a thorough, scientific, and historical analysis should be made by the experts.

5. July23 – 27, 2010

*The Seventh Middle East Peace Project held in the city of Ayabe*



From July 23 to 27, the **Middle East Peace Project**,<sup>1</sup> an annual student experience project inviting the bereaved children of the Middle East from both the Israeli and Palestinian sides, was held in the city of Ayabe in Kyoto Prefecture. The event was hosted by the “Executive Committee on the Middle East Project in Ayabe” led by **Mayor Zenya Yamazaki**.

Five Israeli and Palestinian high-school students visited the Japanese city of Ayabe and were exposed to cultural experiences while staying at the homes of the residents. Two high-schoolers from both sides stayed at a Japanese household in pairs and attended a cultural exchange party where over 350 residents as well as Israeli and Palestinian Ambassadors attended.

“We know we are a small city and our contribution is limited. But even the ocean is made up of many small drops of water. We can be a small drop that joins the big river that flows into the ocean. That is our contribution,” said Mayor Yamazaki in his opening remarks, welcoming the participants and commemorating the sixtieth anniversary of the Declaration for World Federation City of Peace.

“I thought peace was impossible before coming to Japan. But we’ve become friends in just two days. So now I think peace is possible,” said one of the Israeli students in a press conference. “None of my friends back home would understand about the experience I had here,” added a Palestinian student. “but I’d still like to tell them the fact that I did become friends with an Israeli.”

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<sup>1</sup> *The Middle East Peace Project was first held in the City of Ayabe in 2003. In 2004, the Municipal Consultative Assembly decided to subsidize the project. The project was then taken over by the cities of Okayama, Tokushima, and Kameoka, but the project came to a halt in 2006 and 2007 due to deteriorating conditions in the Middle East. This year’s event marks the seventh round following last year and second hosting by the City of Ayabe.*

6. July 28, 2010

*Hiroshima Conference for the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons by 2020*



“The use of nuclear weapons should be banned under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,” proposed **Shu Shiohama**, the new Managing Director of WFM Japan. Hiroshima, at the Hiroshima Conference for the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons by 2020 held on 28 July. “Although there are treaties governing disarmament of nuclear weapons and restriction of nuclear tests, there is no single treaty that has banned the used of nuclear

weapons,” he continued. “Although article eight of the Rome Staute provides that use of toxic gases would be considered a war crime, I believe the use of nuclear weapons should also be included there. Since the ICC is designed to prosecute personal crimes, it has a strong deterrent effect to prevent the crime from being committed.”

The report published last year by the International Commission on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament (ICNND)<sup>2</sup> failed to stipulate the timeline for nuclear abolition. It only stated that nucler arsenal should be reduced to less than 2,000 by 2025 and that their role should be limited to nuclear deterence and not for deterring chemical or biological weapons. It also recommended all states to begin the process of adopting the model Nuclear Weapons Convention (NWC)<sup>3</sup>. Although these achievements should be commended, the plans must be pushed ahead of schedule so as not to lose momentum created by President Obama.

The Japanese civil society should voice strong support for the adoption of the “single-role” statement in the U.S. Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), so that our government can also voice support and assure that Japan has no intention of acquiring nuclear weapons. The government’s reliance on the “U.S. nuclear umbrella” could backfire if sufficient public support cannot be attained. WFM Japan will continue to work through the channels of the ICNND Japan NGO Contact Group.<sup>4</sup> Meanwhile, we should also contine to approach the international community on the probihibition of the use of nuclear weapons, such as by supporting the NWC and the ciriminalization of the use of nuclear weapons in the Rome Statute.

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<sup>2</sup> ICNND: International Commission on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament was founded on October 2008 through an informal agreement between the Japanese and Australian government. Led by the co-chairmanship of H.E. Gareth Evans and Mme. Yoriko Kawaguchi, former foreign ministers of each country, by January 2010 the 40-member Commission aims to compile a comprehensive report with recommendation to the international community on a practical phased-out plan on global nuclear disarmament.

<sup>3</sup> NWC: The Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Testing, Production, Stockpiling, Transfer, Use and Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons and on their Elimination was designed for the abolition and elimination of nuclear weapons. The draft convention was submitted to the General Assembly by the Costa Rican and Malaysian government in April 2007. However the convention has not been adopted to this date.

<sup>4</sup> ICCND Japan NGO Contact Group: A national NGO contact group formed in January 2009 to take the consultative role with the government-initiated ICNND. WFM Japan joined the Group in April 2009.

7. September 26, 2010

*Tokyo Symposium 2010: The first joint NGO event on global solidarity tax*



On 26 November, the first joint-NGO event on global solidarity tax was held by the help of twenty civil society organizations including WFM Japan and its affiliates. Entitled “*Towards Introduction of a Global Currency Transaction Tax and the Aviation Tax*,” the symposium was co-hosted by the Commission on International Solidarity Levies (“Commission”), the Parliamentary Group on International Solidarity Levies (“Group”), the Joint NGO Campaign for International Solidarity Levies (“Joint Campaign”), and the Toyo University Graduate School of Welfare Society Design.

Enjoying the participation of over 130 people, the event featured a keynote speech by **Jitsuro Terashima**, Chairman of the Commission and President of Japan Research Institute (JRI). Mr. Terashima highlighted the role of the global solidarity tax as a way to build a “system of shared responsibilities.” He emphasized that a global currency transaction tax or CTT should be employed to (1) restrict the money game and to (2) use it as the financial source to fund environmental policies. He also expressed high hopes that Japan should introduce the aviation tax (IAT) that countries like France has already employed and has become the source of an international initiative known as UNITAID, which helps finance vaccination of infectious disease such as HIV/AIDS and Malaria.

The Keynote was followed by the introduction of the final report by **Prof. Takehiko Uemura**, Associate Professor at the International College of Arts and Sciences of Yokohama City University and member of the Commission. The report was created by a multi-stakeholder group which was commissioned by the Parliamentary Group to produce recommendations to the government on the possible introduction of an international solidarity tax. The Commission adopted a 13-point recommendation encouraging the government to adopt policies to introduce a global CTT to fund development.

**Profile of the Keynote Speaker:** Mr. Jitsuro Terashima is Chairman at Japan Research Institute, and the President of Mitsui Global Strategic Studies Institute from April 1, 2003 to April 1, 2009 and was also the Chief Executive Officer until April 1, 2009. He was an Executive Managing Officer of Mitsui & Co. Ltd., from April 1, 2006 to April 1, 2009 and also was the Managing Officer since April 1, 2003. Mr. Terashima is a Member of Advisory Board at NTT DoCoMo, Inc. He is a Member of the Advisory Board at TSUNAMI On The Road Corporation. Mr. Terashima is also a Member of the Council of Japan Finance Corporation for Small and Medium Enterprise. He was appointed Chairperson of the Advisory Committee of the venture support organization “TSUNAMI.” Mr. Terashima provides advice on current trends, international affairs, and business engineering. He is a Charter Member of TSUNAMI Entrepreneurs’ Club.

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