

PROGRAM

PUNTARENAS, COSTA RICA, JULY 16th, 2009

ARTICLE 9 AND ARTICLE 12 PEACE CONSTITUTIONS FOR GLOBAL DISARMAMENT

Co-sponsored by Peace Boat • International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA)-Latin America Branch • Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War • Faculty of Law of the University of Costa Rica Japanese Lawyers International Solidarity Association (JALISA)

Thursday, July 16

Venue: onboard Peace Boat, SS Oceanic

09:30 Peace Boat arrival at Puntarenas port

11:00 - 11:30 **OPENING CEREMONY**

Moderators: *Carlos Vargas Pizarro, Conference Director, International Law Professor and Vice-President, IALANA (Costa Rica),*

- Welcome message from Shinsuke Hidaka, 66th Voyage Director, Peace Boat

Keynote addresses

- **Karen Olsen de Figueres**, Former First Lady, Congresswoman and Ambassador (Costa Rica/USA) on behalf of **President of the Republic of Costa Rica, Oscar Arias Sanchez**

- **Lara Blanco**, UNDP Coordinator for Costa Rica

11:30 - 11:40 Break

11:40 - 13:20 **CONFERENCE SESSION I: COSTA RICA'S ARTICLE 12**

IN THE LATIN AMERICAN CONTEXT

Costa Rica abolished its army in 1948 - a move incorporated in the Constitution the following year as Article 12. Throughout the 60 years that have followed, Costa Rica has demonstrated that states can exist peacefully without maintaining armed forces or self-defense forces. Since adopting Article 12, Costa Rica has not, unlike its neighbors, experienced civil war or conflict. Moreover, after allocating its military budget to education and culture, the country has consistently ranked high in terms of human development and environmental performance indexes.

Following the Costa Rican precedent, several Latin American countries have taken significant steps towards peace in recent months: the Constitutive Treaty of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), signed in May 2008, includes a clause promoting a culture of peace and a world free of nuclear weapons. A few months later, Ecuador and Bolivia adopted new constitutions in which they define themselves as pacifist countries that promote a culture of peace and universal disarmament, and that condemn the use of weapons of mass destruction and the imposition of foreign military facilities on their soils.

This session will study Costa Rica's unique experience in the context of these regional developments.

Moderator: **Manuel Araya Incera**, History and Political Science Professor, University of Costa Rica and Journalist (Costa Rica)

Speakers: - **Homero Arellano Lascano**, Secretary General, Vice-Presidency (Ecuador)
- **Carlos Vargas Pizarro**, International Law Professor and Vice-President, IALANA (Costa Rica)
- **Ebrahim Asvat**, International Law Professor, Lawyer and Journalist (Panama)
- **Carlos Vargas Pizarro**, Conference Director, International Law Professor and Vice-President, IALANA (Costa Rica),

13:20-14:15 **LUNCH TIME**

14:20 - 16:00 **CONFERENCE SESSION II: JAPAN'S ARTICLE 9 IN THE ASIAN AND THE US CONTEXTS**

Created in 1947 in the aftermath of Japanese aggression in Asia-Pacific and the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution has been considered as the foundation for Northeast Asian security, thanks to its three fundamental principles of renunciation of war, no maintenance of military or other war potential, and the right for people to live in peace.

Yet, for decades Japan has failed to fulfill its constitutional obligations, including by making its Self-Defense Force one of the largest armies in the world and by increasingly intensifying military cooperation with the US. Today, Article 9 is under threat, as proponents of constitutional changes are using the North Korean crisis, among other excuses, as a pretext to push for amending Article 9.

This session will explore the current and future challenges facing Article 9, as well as the positive role Article 9 has had and continues to play in Asia and in the world.

Moderator: **Alyn Ware**, Global Coordinator, Parliamentarian for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (New Zealand)

Speakers: - **Jun Sasamoto**, Secretary General, JALISA and member, International Association of Democratic Lawyers (Japan)

- **Akira Kawasaki**, Executive Committee Member, Peace Boat and Coordinator, Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War (Japan)

- Presentation of Hibakusha A-Bomb Survivor (Japan)

- **Roberto Zamora**, Attorney of Law and Peace Activist (Costa Rica)

- **Eto Michiko**, Third Generation Hibakusha/Atomic bomb survivor (Japan)

- **Katayama Yukio**, Hibakusha (Japan)

- **Presentation by Peace Boat Passengers**

16:00 - 16:10 **Break**

16:10 - 17:40 **CONFERENCE SESSION III: GLOBAL DISARMAMENT: UN CHARTER'S ARTICLE 26, INITIATIVES AT THE UN AND BEYOND**

During its presidency in the UN Security Council in November 2008, Costa Rica initiated an open debate on "strengthening collective security and armament regulation," as part of an effort to re-invigorate and re-energize work to implement Article 26 of the UN Charter that calls for the "least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources."

This session will look at this initiative, as well as at the Costa Rica Consensus, which seeks to "create mechanisms to forgive debts and support with international financial resources those developing countries which increase spending on environmental protection, education, healthcare and housing for their people and decrease spending on weapons and soldiers," and other UN efforts aimed at pressuring the international community to bring concrete proposals and commitments to reduce global spending on armaments and refocus spending on human security needs towards lasting peace, sustainable disarmament and sustainable development.

Moderator: **Carlos Vargas Pizarro**, International Law Professor and Vice-President, IALANA (Costa Rica)

Speakers: - **Jonathan Granoff**, President, Global Security Institute (USA)

- **Akira Kawasaki**, Executive Committee Member, Peace Boat and Coordinator, Global Article 9 Campaign to Abolish War (Japan)

- **Alyn Ware**, Global Coordinator, Parliamentarian for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (New Zealand)

17:40 - 18:00 **Break**

18:00 - 18:30 **ADOPTION OF THE DECLARATION**

18:30 **RECEPTION**

22:00 **Ship Departs** for its next port of call, Acapulco, Mexico



** English will be the working language of the conference. **