

Joint Declaration
by the Green Parties of Korea, Mongolia, and Japan
to their Governments

“ For the Just Transition toward a Nuclear-free Society”

Nuclear power has brought about life destruction and serious infringement of democracy throughout the world. It is based on the sacrifice of the weak, the support of the interest groups of governments, scientists, and industry, and development-oriented ideology. Despite a series of warnings from accidents at Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, nuclear power has been promoted without proper consideration, causing a tremendous disaster again in Fukushima on March 11, 2011. Nuclear accidents are no accidental misfortune. It can happen again anywhere in the world, unless we discard all nuclear power.

In this regard, we are much concerned of the increasing nuclear power in Asian region, which implies not reduction but rearrangement of nuclear power after the Fukushima disaster.

The former Kan administration of Japan announced the gradual phase-out of the nuclear power plants upon strong opposition of the public. However, the plan of the nuclear phase-out already appears to become uncertain in terms of its goals and time frame, and the government continues attempting to export nuclear power plants to other countries such as Vietnam, Jordan and Turkey. Furthermore, Government attempts to restart nuclear power plant without reflecting on what they have done to Fukushima. At this moment, 51 nuclear power plants out of 54 are stopping for the periodic checkup. If the government could not restart one until April, Japan will achieve no nuclear power plants operating situation.

Despite the tragedy in Fukushima, the Korean government takes unreasonable and unethical attitude by rather expanding and exporting nuclear power than discarding the pro-nuclear power policy

In Mongolia, uranium mining, atomic generation, and disposal of nuclear waste are in progress under the pressure of Korea, Japan, and the United States, as well as the agreement of the Mongolian government.

The situation above shows us that the change toward a nuclear-free society can never be achieved without solidarity and networks at the regional and global level. . Therefore, we, the Green Parties of Korea, Mongolia, and Japan, are convinced that the following understanding and actions are requested urgently

For no nuclear and energy transition

- Nuclear power is one of the biggest threats to the mankind and the global community. It is neither safe nor contributes to reducing the emission of greenhouse gases. Nuclear power can cause economic crisis due to the use of the immense amount of public funds for unsolvable problems, such as the possible nuclear accidents and the nuclear waste disposal.

- Moreover, nuclear power leads to consumption of extra energy due to the separation of the places of production and consumption of energy, centralizing the energy system.

- Besides of all of the problems, nuclear power cannot make a significant contribution to the whole energy supply worldwide. Taking into account of the tremendous growth potential of renewable energy, we can do completely without nuclear energy.

- Therefore, in order to combat the threats of nuclear power and global warming at the same time, we propose the effective means as follows:

- i) to establish the system that energy is consumed in the region where it is produced.
- ii) to reduce energy consumption and increase energy efficiency.
- iii) to transform our energy production system into the one composed with renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, hydraulic, biomass, and geothermal energy.

For the establishment of denuclearization and peace

- The "peaceful nuclear use" is just an illusion created by the superpowers to maintain their supremacy.

- On the contrary, nuclear power promotes and justifies uranium mining and plutonium production, thereby enabling anytime the attempt of developing nuclear weapons.

- Thus, the phase-out of nuclear energy is an important contribution to world peace.

For the just transition toward a nuclear-free society and the restoration of democracy

- Nuclear power is the “unjust” energy system, which is maintained at the sacrifice of socially unprivileged people and the third countries.
- Thus, denuclearization should be accomplished not only at national level but also globally. The process of denuclearization and energy transformation should be also just.
- The above tasks can be realized only through the “restoration of democracy.” All citizens should be able to participate in decision-making processes. In addition, the legal institutions, such as the political party law and the election law that restrict public participation in politics, should be reformed

In this line, we, the three Green Parties of Korea, Mongolia, and Japan, urge the each government to do the followings:

The Japanese government must stop the attempts to restart nuclear power plants under the present situation that the aftermath of Fukushima disaster has not been fully under control. Stop exporting nuclear power plants that destroy life and democracy!

The Mongolian government must stop at once constructing and running nuclear power plants, facilities for uranium mining and nuclear waste disposal. These will destroy the beautiful nature of Mongolia and put its people in danger. Mongolia, a country with over 320 sunny days per year, can produce electricity from other natural sources.

The Korean government must shut down expired nuclear power plants in Gori and Wolsong immediately. The plans for constructing new nuclear power plants must be annulled. Stop exporting the danger of nuclear power to other countries!

We, the Green Parties of Korea, Mongolia, and Japan, will be in forefront of the work to tackle the above challenges and to strengthen solidarity and collaboration in East Asia. Furthermore, we will make every effort to expand stronger solidarity among the Green Parties all over the world.

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