

## A Joint Statement

The Report of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery in its Nineteenth Session on June 23, 1994, reads: The Working Group "draws the attention of the parties concerned to the possibilities of making agreements on voluntary submission to the jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of Arbitration as a way of assisting victims of violations of human rights, in particular practices akin to slavery." Welcoming the report we join in the following statement.

1. Neglecting Japan's responsibilities for reparations and the legal obligations to the former "comfort women" who had been forced into sexual servitude by the Japanese military, Japanese government plans are being formulated to establish an "Asia Exchange Center" in place of adequate measures to bring compensation to these aged women war victims. However, the UN Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery attends to war victims who have been placed in the most intolerable situations over their entire lives, and recommends that the Japanese government submit voluntarily to the jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of Arbitration for clarifying legal obligations to the war victims. We welcome and value highly the meaning of such a recommendation with regard to the restoration of humanity to the former "comfort women" whose human rights were repeatedly violated.
2. The same report states that "sexual exploitation of women and other forms of forced labor during wartime," means the inclusion all war victims; illegally drafted military personnel and civilians under the colonial policies and military domination of Japan. In this sense, we welcome the recommendation of the report as a way of providing assistance to the victims of violations of human rights as these have been presented in the Japanese government.
3. Ten former South Korean "comfort women" stated on July 20, 1994, that they wished to pursue their claims under the jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of Arbitration and seek some agreement with the Japanese government. We ask steadfastly that the Japanese government respond in the war victims' statement and sincerely consider the venue of the Permanent Court of Arbitration by accepting the recommendations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery.
4. It is our hope that the coming forty-sixth session of the UN Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and the Protection of Minorities will consider and support the recommendation of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and appeal to the Japanese government to take further steps in responding to the venue of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in resolution of these issues.

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National Christian Council In Japan  
Japan Young Women's Christian Association--  
Japan Woman's Christian Temperance Union  
Japan Womens Council  
Asian Women's Association  
Women's Actions Against Sexist Discrimination and Japan's Emperor System  
Kunitachi Citizens Struggling for Women and Human Rights  
Women's Democratic Club  
kikyuu no kai  
Korean Women's Network In Japan  
The Association of Korean Democratic Women in Japan  
The Case of Song Siin-do: Support Group  
The Case of Song Siin-do: Support Group, Miyagi  
Citizens Association in Support of Atomic Bomb Victims in South Korea  
Japan's War Responsibility Data Center  
Prosecuting Council Acting for the Bereaved Family in Kang wan do  
Supporting Committee for the Law Suit of Kang wan do's Bereaved Family  
Prosecuting Council Acting for Kim Kyung Sok's Law Suit against NKK  
Supporting Committee for Kim Kyung Sok's Law Suit against NKK  
LUNAS

香港軍票補償をすすめる会  
富山・強制連行訴訟を支援する会  
花岡 "蜂起" 問題にこだわる会  
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