

## PEOPLE'S PLAN FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY (PP-21)

### CREATING A SUSTAINABLE AND RENEWED CIVILIZATION

#### ***Towards a "Global Peoples' Agenda 2030"***

The *People's Plan 21 Century (PP21)* was inaugurated in 1989. In August that year, a coalition of Japanese people's movements and action groups hosted the First PP-21 program comprising of 19 international workshops, conferences, and festivals, most of them held in the midst of communities, where 360 activists from Asia, Pacific and other continents met with thousands of Japanese activists and adopted the *Minamata Declaration*. Together with 17 regional organizations that co-convened the program, the participants agreed to make it a continuing process. The Second PP-21 program was held in Bangkok, Thailand in November-December 1992, with increased grassroots and international participation and adopted the *Rajchadamnoen Pledge*. Earlier, in August 1992, people's movement representatives from six Central American countries met in Managua together with a Japanese PP-21 groups under the aegis of the newly organized PP21 Central America and issued the *Managua Declaration*. Finally, in March 1996, the Third PP-21 was held in Kathmandu, Nepal, which adopted the *Sagarmatha Declaration*.

This paper is a call for a "*Global Peoples' Agenda 2030*" - on par and going further than the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 - based on the Declarations of the three PP-21 events in the 1990s and contextualizing it in today's reality of globalization, the COVID-19 pandemic, climate justice and the grassroots social movements for human rights, peace and democracy.

The demands and recommendations from the three PP-21 events in the 1990s remain relevant today. At the same time, there have been new forms of globalization, authoritarian political and economic forces and un-predicted pandemics - like COVID-19 - that has further weakened and dismantled the achievements of peoples resilience and struggles for social transformation. We acknowledge the resurgence of children and young people in struggles for human rights and democracy; the cross-border solidarity and networking of civil society organisations across the Global North and the Global South; and the innovation and creativity of public protest and social movements to challenge the status quo.

Our stories and narratives of peoples struggles needs to capture the new knowledge and actions that have emerged in recent years on global issues - viz, Pluriverse (not Universe); Climate Justice (not Climate Change); Normal (not New-Normal - COVID-19). We need to move away from an "anthropocentric" approach and mind-set to a "nature-human-cosmic" approach and mind-set on development and livelihood of our people.

We need to address some of the new and emerging global trends including, among others:

- (a) China as a new "super-power" - economic, political and cultural
- (b) Right-wing ideological shifts - at the top (Governments, Authoritarian leaders) and at the bottom (popular right-wing groups and para-military organisations)

- (c) Security issues: Islamaphobia; anti-terrorism; counter-insurgency and religious fundamentalism
- (d) Emergence of young activists and leaders in social protests and peoples movements
- (e) Creative and innovative use of social media as a new “weapon of peoples’ non-violent protest”

We need to “break taboos” and “step outside existing boundaries” (as so many young people have shown us in Thailand, Burma/Myanmar, Hong Kong and around the world).

Three Agenda Points for a proposed “Global Peoples’ Plan 2030”:

### **1. Focus on “Tipping Points”**

- Governance, Accountability and Democracy: failure of parliamentary (electoral) democracy - need for “trans-border peoples’ participatory democracy”
- Globalisation and its impact on the Global South
- Resurgence of authoritarianism, communalism and right-wing extremism
- Bankruptcy of the Left and irrelevance of socialist and communist models
- South-South solidarity: trans-border peoples’ movements and networks
- “Back-to-the-Roots” - based on the human values and wisdom of the poor and the indigenous peoples
- Re-emergence of the students and youth movements globally (“new social movements”)

### **2. Re-design and Re-orient our**

- Messaging
- Non-violence protest approaches, strategies and methods
- New Alliance: south-south partnerships
- Glocal: “Think Globally - Act Locally”
- Reaching the Unreached (“No one left behind”)

### **3. Global Peoples’ Alliances and Networks**

- Networking and solidarity with “strategic partners” (Global North and Global South)
- Re-connect and strengthen linkages with grassroots peoples’ organisations and movements
- Establish a network of “Organic Intellectuals” (OIs) - elders, leaders and activists from the grassroot peoples movements - based on inter-generational exchange and solidarity.

## **PP-21: Renewing our Alliance of Hope and Call to Action**

Based on the above, this is a call to progressive individuals, peoples organisations and networks at local, national, regional and global levels to join us in renewing our pledge

to build the "Alliance of Hope" as the new "*Global Peoples Agenda 2030*". This is a "Call to Action" to join us to build "another world" of self-governance of the people (global autonomy) that manages people and nature-centered social and economic systems.

We invite you to join us in this struggle.....

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