



Mayors for Peace

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Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020)

This year, as we find ourselves less than three years away from 2020, the year we have set as the target for the abolition of nuclear weapons, the world is witnessing a significant change. In March and June-July, the United Nations held a conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons at its Headquarters in New York. While the nuclear-armed states and their allies remained absent throughout the negotiations, the States that took part in the debates engaged in active discussion on the need for legal prohibition of nuclear weapons – the fervent and long-sought wish of the atomic bomb survivors (*hibakusha*). On July 7th, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted with 122 countries voting in favor.

This agreement would not have been achieved without high aspirations and strong commitment from all those involved – the staff of the UN and international peace organizations as well as civil society members including Mayors for Peace, and above all, the *hibakusha*, who have been seeking the legal prohibition of the nuclear weapons, leading to their elimination.

Fully consistent with the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision, the ban treaty is a significant step forward in the pursuit of a future comprehensive nuclear weapons convention achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Mayors for Peace campaign should therefore focus now on how to encourage the nuclear-armed states and their allies to ratify the new treaty by convincing them to accept the will of civil society, which is this path toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

We also need to nurture a collaborative international environment where nuclear-dependent states can sit at the same table with the parties to the treaty and engage in dialogues to ensure that the new treaty will become a fully effective legal instrument for nuclear abolition. This will be part of our intensified efforts to advance toward realization of lasting world peace, aiming for our milestone year of 2020.

In drawing up the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020), we have set two main objectives that would lead us to our ultimate goal, that of lasting world peace: “Realization of a world without nuclear weapons” and “Realization of safe and resilient cities”.

To realize a world without nuclear weapons, together with our member cities and our civil society partners, we will call on national governments to share in the *hibakusha's* earnest wishes for nuclear abolition and encourage the nuclear-armed states and their allies to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

To realize safe and resilient cities, we will promote proactive efforts by member cities to create a culture of peace and to address various issues unique to each region, such as terrorism, refugees, the destruction of the environment, and others. To these ends, we support concrete actions to implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including those pertaining to peace, cities, and education.

These efforts can be promoted effectively only through fostering and growing international public opinion. To this end, we plan to implement new activities, including conducting peace education to raise awareness among future generations, appointing Campaign Ambassadors to raise people's awareness for peace, and conducting outreach activities on the inhumanity and risks posed by nuclear weapons. We will also encourage Lead Cities to hold regional conferences to address regional issues and also collaborate with associations of local authorities with whom they have established close relationships.

Furthermore, in order to solidify the financial basis for our future activities, we will seek an increase to the Membership Fee revenues, which we believe will help each regional group to secure budgets for their own activities in the region, thus contributing to revitalizing regional initiatives.

The membership of Mayors for Peace has grown to 7,417 member cities in 162 countries and regions, and we now represent more than 1 billion people, which accounts for one-seventh of the world population. While making the most of the solid foundations built together with our member cities over the past 35 years, we are determined to make a significant advance towards our goal. Based on these considerations, the concrete plans to be promoted from 2017 to 2020 are as listed below.

I Realization of a world without nuclear weapons

1) Efforts by Mayors for Peace to call on the U.N. and national governments to act <Revision>

[Content of requests]

➤ Visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to share in the hibakusha's earnest wishes for nuclear abolition

We will urge U.N. officials and policymakers around the world to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to deepen their understanding of the reality of the atomic bombings through experiences like listening to the eyewitness testimonies of the hibakusha. By doing so, we urge them to share in the hibakusha's earnest wish for the abolition of nuclear weapons and to strengthen their own commitment for its realization.

➤ Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible

We will urge all States, including nuclear-armed states and their allies, to participate in the Treaty as soon as possible. Fully consistent with the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision, the treaty is a significant step forward in the pursuit of a future comprehensive nuclear weapons convention achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons. We therefore support all efforts to encourage the treaty's early entry into force.

➤ Create a security framework that moves away from nuclear deterrence

We will urge all States to move away from the current security system dependent on nuclear deterrence to one that fosters mutual understanding and cooperation in the diverse international community.

2) Efforts by a wide range of citizens to call on the nuclear-armed states and their allies to act

➤ Request policy changes from these governments through member cities working with civil society <New>

Member cities will work in cooperation with their civil societies to call on these governments to change their policy toward nuclear abolition.

1. Fostering and growing international public opinion

1) Encouraging the next generation to actively promote peace

i. Conduct peace education to raise awareness among future generations <New>

Member cities will host peace education events and lectures with the theme of nuclear issues in an aim to raise awareness among young people who will bear the responsibility for future peace activities. In such events, member cities are encouraged to utilize various media that are appealing to young generations today, such as animation, cartoons, and other styles from popular subcultures, as well as contemporary arts, music, etc. The Secretariat will solicit education tools useful to such peace education programs from member cities and share them on the Mayors for Peace website.

ii. Strengthen support for existing projects to receive youths in Hiroshima and Nagasaki such as "The Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program" <Revision>

We will improve programs for the youths who are visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki as part of "The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course," and "The Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program," etc. It is hoped that the programs will enable them to better understand the reality of the atomic bombings and inspire them to proactively contribute to nuclear abolition when they return to their home cities.

iii. Promote the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in higher education

We will further promote the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course, which is designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and messages of hibakusha to younger generations. We will seek to increase the number of colleges and universities providing this course by effectively introducing its history and results as well as effectively providing teaching materials that can be used immediately through the Internet.

2) Raising awareness for peace among a wide range of citizens

i. Promote the petition drive to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible in collaboration with “The Hibakusha Appeal” <Revision>

We will carry out a petition drive urging the nuclear-armed states and their allies to participate in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. In doing so, we will collaborate with the signature campaign “The Hibakusha Appeal”. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat (hereafter referred to as the Secretariat) will compile the number of signatures collected and present it to the United Nations on occasions such as NPT Review Conferences, etc.

ii. Appoint Campaign Ambassadors to raise people’s awareness for peace <New>

We will appoint prominent figures in culture, arts, sports, etc. as Mayors for Peace Campaign Ambassadors and have them engage in activities to raise people’s awareness for peace as well as encouraging citizens to participate in peace activities.

iii. Conduct outreach activities on the inhumanity and risks posed by nuclear weapons <New>

We will promote efforts to raise people’s awareness regarding the inhumanity of nuclear weapons as well as accidents and other universal and likely imminent threats posed by nuclear weapons to motivate them to work toward nuclear abolition.

3) Promoting and disseminating Hiroshima and Nagasaki’s messages in member cities

i. Hold A-bomb Poster Exhibitions

We will promote exhibitions in member cities using Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb Posters and other related materials so that more citizens may deepen their understanding of the reality of atomic bombings and strengthen their desire for nuclear abolition.

ii. Promote transmission of hibakusha testimonies via Skype

We will further promote transmitting testimonies of hibakusha through Skype, in which we connect venues in member cities and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

iii. Distribute seeds and seedlings of A-bombed trees for cultivation

We will distribute the seeds and seedlings of A-bombed trees, which have survived the atomic bombings and are alive today, to all member cities wishing to receive them. It is hoped that taking care of the seed/seedling as a symbol of peace will help raise citizens’ awareness for peace.

iv. Receive foreign diplomats in Hiroshima and Nagasaki

We will receive diplomats of foreign missions to Japan, especially those representing our member cities' countries, in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is hoped that by witnessing the reality of the atomic bombings, they will enhance their commitment toward nuclear abolition, and seek to help foster international public opinion toward nuclear abolition on various occasions after they return to their home countries. We will follow up to ensure the visits will lead to strengthening networks between the visitors' countries and Mayors for Peace.

4) Collaborating with a variety of groups

i. Establish collaboration with associations of local authorities around the world

In order to build momentum toward nuclear abolition on a wide-ranging city and citizen level and to broaden our activities, we will request various associations of local authorities around the world—including United Cities for Local Governments (UCLG), the US Conference of Mayors (USCM), and Metropolis—to support and cooperate with Mayors for Peace activities for nuclear abolition.

ii. Build networks and collaborate with international peace organizations such as the ICRC and peace NGOs

We will work to network with international peace organizations, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, etc. as well as peace NGOs including Peace Boat, Abolition 2000, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), etc. and seek to collaborate with them on their various activities.

iii. Strengthen collaboration with Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum

- a. We will place links to the two Museums' exhibitions, their archive database, websites for children ("Kids Peace Station Hiroshima" and "Kids Heiwa Nagasaki") on the Mayors for Peace website.
- b. We will effectively introduce the activities of Mayors for Peace in platforms of outreach established by the two Museums such as their traveling exhibitions.

iv. Strengthen collaboration with international peace institutes such as the Hiroshima Peace Institute and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition in Nagasaki <Revision>

We will strengthen collaboration with the Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University (HPI), and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition of Nagasaki University (RECNA), and other international peace research institutes and investigate the possibility of utilizing their human resources and academic research results in Mayors for Peace activities. When Mayors for Peace is involved in seminars and events hosted by these peace institutes, we will publicize them through Facebook and other means to raise people's awareness.

II Realization of safe and resilient cities

Expand regional efforts to promote a culture of peace and to address common challenges such as terrorism, refugees, the destruction of the environment, etc. <New>

In addition to the issues related to nuclear weapons, each regional group will identify needs and agendas unique to each region, such as terrorism, refugees, the destruction of the environment, poverty, starvation, discrimination, and violence, etc. and engage in various activities to address such issues, and to promote a culture of peace in close collaboration with the Secretariat. These regional initiatives will be supported by Mayors for Peace as a whole.

1. Fostering and growing international public opinion

1) Encouraging the next generation to actively promote peace

i. **Conduct peace education to raise awareness among future generations** <New>

Member cities will conduct peace education targeting future generations in which they think about the preciousness of peace through learning about various regional issues that could threaten human dignity. The Secretariat will compile examples of such peace education programs and share them on the Mayors for Peace website so more cities will be able to engage in such initiatives.

2) Encouraging proactive regional activities with the initiatives of Lead Cities

i. **Conduct activities to address issues unique to each region, such as holding regional conferences, etc.** <New>

With the initiatives of Lead Cities, each regional group will be encouraged to promote activities to address various issues unique to each region involving a wide range of citizens, such as holding regional conferences, etc. These activities should also promote the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular those relating to peace, cities, and education.

3) Facilitating collaboration between Lead Cities and a variety of groups

i. **Create collaboration with associations of local authorities with which Lead Cities have already established relationships** <New>

In order to build momentum toward addressing various regional issues and to broaden our activities, Lead Cities will request associations of local authorities with whom they have established close relationships to support and cooperate with Mayors for Peace activities and to serve as a liaison between such associations and Mayors for Peace. Constructive models include the productive cooperation with the UCLG led by the Mayor of Granollers, Spain and with the USCM led by the Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa.

ii. **Build networks with international peace organizations such as the ICRC and peace NGOs** <Revision>

Lead Cities will work to network with international peace organizations, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, etc. as well as peace NGOs including Peace Boat, Abolition 2000, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), etc.

I Realization of a world without nuclear weapons

II Realization of safe and resilient cities

2. Strengthening the organizational system and functions

<Measures for Mayors for Peace as a whole>

1) Expanding membership

i. Invite non-member cities to join through various channels

We will call on non-member cities to join Mayors for Peace, not only through the Secretariat but through associations of local governments, Lead Cities' partners and other channels.

ii. Promote the membership of influential capitals and cities with U.N. offices <Revision>

We will promote the membership of capital cities and cities with U.N. offices, which have great political influence and a significant role in forming international public opinion.

2) Improving the Secretariat's functions

i. Strengthen collaboration between the Secretariat and member cities by receiving interns <Revision>

We will receive interns from a wide range of member cities each year in an aim to strengthen collaboration among the Secretariat and member cities and also to improve the functions of the Secretariat. We will seek to receive interns from new cities when possible.

ii. Strengthen information dissemination through social media

We will utilize social media to facilitate the transmission of information about Mayors for Peace activities and to facilitate information exchange among member cities.

3) Solidifying the financial basis

i. Improve the collection rates of Membership Fees <Revision>

In order to increase Membership Fee revenue, which supports the Mayors for Peace activities, Lead Cities will seek to improve the collection rates by informing the member cities in their regional group of the need for contribution from each city and also proposing methods of payment.

ii. Seek other fundraising measures

We will explore and use better and more effective fundraising strategies beyond the Membership Fee, for example by applying to other organizations for subsidies.

<Measures for each regional area>

1) Strengthening basis for regional groups to promote regional initiatives

- i. Promote integration at the national / cross-national level to expand regional activities with the initiatives of Lead Cities** <Revision>

We will build solid structural foundations for regional integration by encouraging our member cities to establish a regional chapter at the national or a wider cross-national level, so each chapter can engage in proactive and independent activities based on regional characteristics.

2) Solidifying the financial basis

- i. Membership Fee increase for new regional activities** <New>

Lead Cities can, while seeking to improve the collection rates in their regional group, increase the Membership Fee from 2,000 JPY to 6,000 JPY and allocate the difference (6,000-2,000=4,000 JPY) to fund new projects to promote the objective “Realization of safe and resilient cities”.

- ii. Promote proactive fundraising by regional groups** <Revision>

Each regional group will explore and use better and more effective fundraising strategies beyond the Membership Fee.

Note: The highlighted items on page 2, 3, and 5 are the high-priority action items.

Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020) Overview

Our goal: Lasting World Peace

is achieved by both:

I Realization of a world without nuclear weapons

- 1) Efforts by Mayors for Peace to call on the U.N. and national governments to act <Revision>
[Content of requests]
 - > Visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to share in the hibakusha's earnest wishes for nuclear abolition
 - > Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible
 - > Create a security framework that moves away from nuclear deterrence
- 2) Efforts by a wide range of citizens to call on the nuclear-armed states and their allies to act
 - > Request policy changes from these governments through member cities working with civil society <New>

and:

II Realization of safe and resilient cities

Expand regional efforts to promote a culture of peace and to address common challenges such as terrorism, refugees, the destruction of the environment, etc. <New>

which needs:

1. Fostering and growing international public opinion

- 1) Encouraging the next generation to actively promote peace
 - i. Conduct peace education to raise awareness among future generations <New>
 - ii. Strengthen support for existing projects to receive youths in Hiroshima and Nagasaki such as "The Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program" <Revision>
 - iii. Promote the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course in higher education
- 2) Raising awareness for peace among a wide range of citizens
 - i. Promote the petition drive to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible in collaboration with "The Hibakusha Appeal" <Revision>
 - ii. Appoint Campaign Ambassadors to raise people's awareness for peace <New>
 - iii. Conduct outreach activities on the inhumanity and risks posed by nuclear weapons <New>
- 3) Promoting and disseminating Hiroshima and Nagasaki's messages in member cities
 - i. Hold A-bomb Poster Exhibitions
 - ii. Promote transmission of hibakusha testimonies via Skype
 - iii. Distribute seeds and seedlings of A-bombed trees for cultivation
 - iv. Receive foreign diplomats in Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- 4) Collaborating with a variety of groups
 - i. Establish collaboration with associations of local authorities around the world
 - ii. Build networks and collaborate with international peace organizations such as the ICRC and peace NGOs
 - iii. Strengthen collaboration with Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum
 - iv. Strengthen collaboration with international peace institutes such as the Hiroshima Peace Institute and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition in Nagasaki <Revision>

- 1) Encouraging the next generation to actively promote peace
 - i. Conduct peace education to raise awareness among future generation <New>
- 2) Encouraging proactive regional activities with the initiatives of Lead Cities
 - i. Conduct activities to address issues unique to each region, such as holding regional conferences, etc. <New>
- 3) Facilitating collaboration between Lead Cities and a variety of groups
 - i. Create collaboration with associations of local authorities with which Lead Cities have already established relationships <New>
 - ii. Build networks with international peace organizations such as the ICRC and peace NGOs <Revision>

which needs:

2. Strengthening the organizational system and functions

<Measures for Mayors for Peace as a whole>

- 1) Expanding membership
 - i. Invite non-member cities to join through various channels
 - ii. Promote the membership of influential capitals and cities with U.N. offices <Revision>
- 2) Improving the Secretariat's functions
 - i. Strengthen collaboration between the Secretariat and member cities by receiving interns <Revision>
 - ii. Strengthen information dissemination through social media
- 3) Solidifying the financial basis
 - i. Improve the collection rates of Membership Fees <Revision>
 - ii. Seek other fundraising measures

<Measures for each regional area>

- 1) Strengthening basis for regional groups to promote regional initiatives
 - i. Promote integration at the national / cross-national level to expand regional activities with the initiatives of Lead Cities <Revision>
- 2) Solidifying the financial basis
 - i. Membership Fee increase for new regional activities <New>
 - ii. Promote proactive fundraising by regional groups <Revision>

Note: The highlighted items are the high-priority action items.

The Nagasaki Appeal

For the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons and Lasting World Peace

We, the representatives of 7,417 cities from 162 countries and regions around the world, have met at the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki and engaged in active discussions on the theme “Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons – What We Can Do Toward 2020.”

In August 1945, atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The fierce heat rays, blast and radiation instantly leveled buildings and turned the cities into burnt-out ruins, cruelly killing more than 210,000 residents, including women, children and the elderly. The *hibakusha*, many of whom only narrowly survived, have witnessed many terrible situations where people were deprived of human dignity. They have survived for 72 years with physical and emotional wounds that can never be healed. While suffering from cancer and other diseases caused by radiation, the *hibakusha* have continued to appeal to the world for the abolition of these inhumane weapons, driven by their strong and almost life-shortening determination that no one else should ever again suffer as they have.

Yet, there still remain nearly 15,000 nuclear weapons on our planet, and massive budgets have been allocated to programs aimed at modernizing them. In addition, the threat of nuclear weapon use is increasing in various parts of the world, such as Northeast Asia, Europe, South Asia and the Middle East. Furthermore, the unintended or accidental use of nuclear weapons and the risk of nuclear terrorist attacks cannot be ignored.

Based on the 2020 Vision (Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons), Mayors for Peace has been engaged in diverse activities in partnership with civil society, NGOs and others, aimed at the urgently needed realization of a world without nuclear weapons. These activities include signature-collecting for petitions that call for the early realization of a nuclear weapons convention and appeals for its implementation at international conferences.

This summer, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted. We sincerely welcome the enactment of this treaty, the first international law that explicitly bans nuclear weapons. This historic advancement toward nuclear disarmament won the approval of the majority of UN member states, and demonstrates to the international community that the slogan “Nagasaki must be the last atomic-bombed city,” as the *hibakusha* have continued to pronounce at every opportunity, is a common desire that represents the will of all humankind. Also, the member cities of Mayors for Peace have realized that, even though a desire for peace expressed by one city may constitute a small voice, such voices together can be a driving force in the world if we cooperate and never give up on our goals. We have also been convinced that we are on the right path with our activities.

With this pride in our hearts, Mayors for Peace is determined to push forward the following actions.

Aiming at the early implementation of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Mayors for Peace will make efforts to make this treaty more effective by further strengthening collaboration among the *hibakusha*, civil society and treaty-leading nations that have served as a driving force in the adoption of the treaty, and all member cities will strongly urge their national governments to adopt it. In particular, we will strongly urge the governments of nuclear-armed states and those under the nuclear umbrella to do so.

Mayors for Peace represents more than one billion residents of the member cities, and has worked for the elimination of nuclear weapons and the promotion of peace. Yet beyond nuclear weapons, regional challenges such as chemical weapons, armed conflicts, refugee crises, famine, poverty, discrimination, violence, environmental destruction and, more recently, terrorist attacks have emerged. To these ends, we support concrete actions to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including those pertaining peace, cities, and education. In addition, we will further increase the number of member cities and actively work on strengthening and deepening regional networks in order to promote humanitarian activities, especially addressing regional challenges to ensure safety and welfare in civil society.

Mayors for Peace will work towards creating a culture of peace in order to fundamentally address the various problems standing in the way of peace. On that account, we recognize the significance of peace education to pass on war experiences, with a child and youth perspective, to future generations. The member cities of Mayors for Peace are committed to design and promote actions to advance peace education. By participating in the Mayors for Peace network, cities can put into practice the culture of peace in implementing local policies.

Peace is a desire shared by all humankind. We must pursue peace based on human security, in which all individuals respect and trust each other as world citizens by overcoming the divisions of nationality, race and religion, to consider safety as a common concern of all people. This is the path to realizing a world without nuclear weapons. Mayors for Peace will concentrate its efforts on pursuing this long and difficult path, with a strong determination to attain these goals, in close cooperation with all like-minded individuals, groups and nations.

Mayors for Peace strongly calls on the United Nations and all governments to take the following actions:

1. Observe the NPT regime and support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
 - Steadily and sincerely promote nuclear disarmament in accordance with the NPT regime so that nuclear weapons will never be used again, listen to the strong voices of civil society, the voices of those who have set the course for the successful adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, and sign and ratify the treaty leading to its early entry into force.
 - Reaffirm that this treaty is a significant step forward in the pursuit of a future comprehensive nuclear weapons convention achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

2. Make efforts to address global issues that deprive human beings of dignity.
 - Make sincere and prompt efforts to address global issues that deprive human beings of dignity, such as nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, conflicts, refugee crises, famine, poverty, discrimination, violence, environmental destruction and terrorism.

3. Make efforts to create a culture of peace and offer opportunities to more people to learn, be aware of, and realize the harsh reality of atomic bombings and wars.
 - Call on representatives from governments and international agencies to visit the atomic-bombed cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, so that the inhumanity of nuclear weapons can be imprinted firmly in their hearts after learning of the reality of the bombings. As a result of such visits, they will better appreciate the need to abolish such weapons as soon as possible. Provide full support to activities promoting the preservation of war experiences, atomic bomb exhibitions and peace research and education programs to be held in the cities, so that the citizens of those cities can widely share the horrors of war and civil conflicts in various parts of world.

Addressing the above, at the 9th General Conference, Mayors for Peace adopted the Action Plan for the period of 2017 to 2020. We hereby pledge to make every endeavor to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date and aim for lasting peace in the world.

August 10, 2017
Nagasaki, Japan
The 9th General Conference
for Mayors for Peace

COVENANT OF THE MAYORS FOR PEACE

In August, 1945, the first nuclear weapons ever used in human history caused an indescribable catastrophe for the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Even now a number of A-bomb survivors are still suffering physically, psychologically, and socially from various after-effects. Nevertheless, nuclear weapons have not been abolished; they continue to threaten human existence. Our goal is to maintain environments that enable citizens to lead safe, cultural lives, and to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace. To this end, we pledge to make every effort to create an inter-city solidarity transcending national boundaries and ideological differences in order to achieve the total abolition of nuclear weapons and avert the recurrence of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies.

We agree to the intent of the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" proposed by Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Furthermore, we hope that the "World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity," which held its first session in August of 1985, shall become a permanent organization. Accordingly, we do hereby establish an organization to be known as the "Mayors for Peace".

CHAPTER I PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

Purposes ARTICLE 1

The Purposes of the "Mayors for Peace" are to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace by arousing concern among citizens of the world for the total abolition of nuclear weapons through close solidarity among all cities which agree to the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" as well as by striving to solve vital problems for the human race such as starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation. (Cities which agree to the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" are hereinafter cited as solidarity cities.)

Principles ARTICLE 2

The Organization and solidarity cities, in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1, shall act in accordance with the following Principles;

- (a) The Organization shall be based on friendship, goodwill, and respect for the actual conditions of Solidarity Cities.
- (b) The Organization shall devote itself to the total abolition of nuclear weapons and the attainment of lasting world peace, and to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation in cooperation with the United Nations, a major peace-keeping organization in the world.
- (c) Solidarity Cities shall work for the development of friendly relationships and bonds of solidarity among cities on the basis of mutual understanding and shall act in good faith for the attainment of the Purposes in accordance with the present Covenant.

- (d) Solidarity Cities shall seek to increase global awareness of the "Spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" by introducing and expanding the idea of Inter-City Solidarity.

CHAPTER II

ACTIVITIES

Details of the Activities

ARTICLE 3

The Organization, in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1, shall be engaged in the following activities;

- (a) To introduce and expand the idea of inter-city solidarity to worldwide cities.
- (b) To make an appeal for the total abolition of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament to related organizations such as the United Nations.
- (c) To coordinate the following activities promoted by Solidarity Cities.
 - (i) Solidarity Cities shall hold gatherings and events devoted to the cause of disarmament and peace, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation and shall send copies of any statement, resolution, or proclamation, associated with these events, to other Solidarity Cities.
 - (ii) Solidarity cities shall transmit messages advocating the total abolition of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations during the United Nations Disarmament Week. In addition, copies of the messages shall be exchanged with other Solidarity Cities.
 - (iii) Solidarity Cities that sponsor workshops or meetings on peace, disarmament, and security issues, and/or the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation shall send relevant pamphlets, books, and materials reporting these results to other Solidarity Cities.
 - (iv) Solidarity Cities that publish or obtain materials, brochures, or books related to peace, disarmament, and security issues, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation shall bring them to the attention of other Solidarity Cities.
 - (v) Bearing in mind the current international situation and the urgency and importance of nuclear disarmament, Solidarity Cities shall hold photographic exhibitions which describe and depict to citizens around the world the actual nature of the devastations wreaked by the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
 - (vi) The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki shall cooperate by providing necessary exhibition photographs and introducing documentary films, slides, and books, that depict the disaster caused by the atomic bombings.
- (d) To sponsor and organize events as may be necessary to achieve the Purposes stated in the present Covenant.

CHAPTER III
EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS

Executive Officials
ARTICLE 4

1. Executive Officials of the Organization shall consist of: one President; an appropriate number of Vice-Presidents and Executive Members.
2. The President and the Vice-President shall be elected by Solidarity Cities.
3. The President shall supervise and represent the Organization, and shall chair the Conference.
4. The Vice-President shall assist the President. In case of the inability of the President to carry out the duties of the office, the Vice-President shall fulfill the duties of the President.
5. The Executive Members shall be appointed from Solidarity Cities by the President with regional conditions taken into consideration.
6. The Executive Members shall assist the President and the Vice-President and shall act for the smooth management of the Organization.

Term of Office
ARTICLE 5

1. The term of office of the Executive Officials shall be until such time that new Executive Officials are elected at a succeeding General Conference. Each office shall be open to reelection.
2. Whatever the stipulations of previous clauses, if a member-city mayor holding an elected office resigns or retires his or her mayoralty, the succeeding mayor shall assume said office. In such case, the succeeding officer's term shall last as long as the original term of the retiring or resigning officer.

CHAPTER IV
CONFERENCE

General Conference and
Executive Conference
ARTICLE 6

The Organization shall hold a General Conference and an Executive Conference.

General Conference
ARTICLE 7

1. The General Conference shall meet every four years in principle.
2. The General Conference shall be held to achieve the Purposes stated in Article 1 and to decide and approve relevant questions.

Executive Conference

ARTICLE 8

1. The Executive Conference shall consist of the Executive Officials and shall meet when the occasion arises.
2. The Executive Conference shall be authorized to make emergency decisions for the Organization in place of the General Conference with the exception of electing the President and the Vice-President.

Convocation

ARTICLE 9

The General Conference or the Executive Conference shall be convoked by the President.

Voting

ARTICLE 10

1. Each Solidarity City participating in the General Conference or the Executive Conference shall have one vote. In case of absence, each Solidarity City may delegate its vote by proxy to another participating city.
2. Decisions of the Conference on all questions shall be made by a simple majority vote of participating cities. In case of tie votes, the President shall cast a deciding vote.
3. When circumstances render it impossible to hold a Conference, decisions shall be made by votes conveyed in letters to the Secretariat from Solidarity Cities.

CHAPTER V

THE SECRETARIAT

Establishment of the Secretariat

ARTICLE 11

The Secretariat shall be established in the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation to operate the Organization.

Secretariat Staff

ARTICLE 12

1. The Secretariat shall be comprised of a Secretary General and Under-Secretary General, and support-staff.
2. The Chairperson of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation shall serve as Secretary General.
3. The Executive Director of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation shall serve as the Under-Secretary General.
4. The staff except the Secretary General and Under-Secretary General shall be appointed by the President.
5. The Secretary General shall preside over the duties of the Secretariat.

6. The Under-Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General. In case of the inability of the Secretary General to carry out the duties of the office, or if the post is vacant, the Under-Secretary General shall fulfill the duties of the Secretary General.

CHAPTER VI

SHARE OF EXPENSES

Expenses

ARTICLE 13

Expenses required to operate the Secretariat (ordinary expenditure) and expenses required to hold the Conference (extraordinary expenditure) shall be decided by the General Conference on the recommendation of the Executive Conference.

CHAPTER VII

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Amendments

ARTICLE 14

Amendments to the present Covenant shall come into force upon adoption by a two-thirds majority of the participating cities at the General Conference.

Delegation

ARTICLE 15

Decisions required to operate the Secretariat, other than those stipulated in the present Covenant, shall be made by the President.

This covenant was executed on November 1, 1986
Revised on October 16, 1991, effective the same day
Revised on August 5, 2001, effective the same day
Revised on August 6, 2013, effective the same day

Guidelines for the Handling of Mayors for Peace Membership Fees

(Purpose)

Article 1

These Guidelines shall prescribe requirements for handling the Mayors for Peace membership fees ("Fee").

(Fee Payment)

Article 2

1. Mayors for Peace Member Cities ("Member Cities") shall each pay a Fee of 2,000 yen every year (or, in the case of payment in any other currency, an amount converted at the exchange rate between that currency and yen as of the date of payment).
2. The Member City shall pay the Fee by the designated date. In this case, the Member City may pay the Fee through a Mayors for Peace Lead City ("Lead City") or the association which operates the member city's regional chapter.
3. Notwithstanding the preceding two paragraphs, the President may exempt the Member City from Fee payment if the President finds any of the following:
 - (1) It is necessary to allocate funds to activities of Mayors for Peace regional groups;
 - (2) The charge for remittance to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat is excessively higher than the Fee and the electronic settlement system for Fee payment is out of service.
 - (3) There are any other circumstances deemed by the President to be particularly considerable.
4. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2, the President may, through consultation with Lead City or the association exempt from Fee payment Member Cities that make monetary contribution or equivalent to other local government organizations promoting action toward total elimination of nuclear weapons.
5. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, Member Cities may, at their independent discretion, pay a Fee of more than 2,000 yen.
6. The President shall have no power to expel from Mayors for Peace any Member City that fails to pay the Fee.
7. The President shall not refund any Fee once paid.

(Appropriation of Fees)

Article 3

Fees paid shall be appropriated on a priority basis as funds for expansion of new and existing projects advocated in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017–2020). If a surplus is expected to occur, Fees shall also be appropriated for conventional Mayors for Peace operating costs.

(Authorization Provision)

Article 4

The President shall be authorized to establish requirements for handling Fees other than as provided for in these Guidelines.

Supplementary Provision

These Guidelines shall take effect on April 1, 2015.

Supplementary Provision

These Guidelines shall take effect on September 1, 2017.