

Request to hold 4th United Nations Special Session on Disarmament

The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity is an international organization that comprises 296 cities from 51 countries and has a member-city population surpassing 100 million persons. As a United Nations Economic and Social Council NGO (Category II), the Mayors Conference deals at the municipal level with a wide range of related issues: peace, disarmament, starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, oppression of human rights, and environmental degradation.

We, the Executive Cities of the Mayors Conference gathered here in Sacramento, have reached a consensus on the necessity of seizing this opportunity to achieve nuclear disarmament now that tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union have dissipated.

The world has undergone historic changes symbolized by sweeping reform in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, improved relations between the two superpowers, and German reunification. We are now heralding forth a new era to take the place of the Cold War. A giant leap forward has also been taken regarding nuclear disarmament, witnessed in the signing of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) at the summit meeting in Moscow last July following the total U.S.-Soviet abolition of intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), and the recent proposals by the U.S. and Soviet Union on the large scale reduction of nuclear arsenals.

Standing at the threshold of this new era, when historic world tensions have abated, we come to the obvious conclusion that now is an auspicious opportunity to accelerate progress toward nuclear disarmament. We close with the hope that the U.N. will deem it necessary to hold the 4th Special Session on Disarmament in 1995, the year in which fifty years ago the first atomic bomb destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the year of the 50th anniversary of the U.N.

The Executive Committee of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace Through Inter-city Solidarity agrees to request the 4th United Nations Special Session on disarmament to take up the following:

- that the 4th Special Session on Disarmament include further consideration of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty; a ban on transfer of weapons from one country to another; technical assistance to dismantle existing nuclear weapons and monitor that process.

-that the 4th Special Session on Disarmament also consider enacting a total embargo on the materials needed to produce nuclear weapons.

October 16, 1991

United Nations Secretary General
Javier Pérez de Cuéllar

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

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