



# Mayors for Peace Newsletter

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## MEMBERSHIP EXCEEDS 5,000!

### 5,020 member cities in 151 countries and regions as of October 1, 2011

Thanks to your tremendous support, the number of Mayors for Peace member cities exceeded 5,000 on September 16 and now stands at 5,020 cities in 151 countries and regions as of October 1, 2011.

In July, the Riyadh Region (capital of Saudi Arabia) became the first Mayors for Peace member in that country. This expands our membership to 151 countries and regions. We saw significant membership increases in many countries since April, especially in Italy (43 cities), Senegal (41 cities) and Austria (40 cities). We hereby express our heartfelt gratitude to all who have promoted inter-city solidarity for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

### **Member Cities by Area**

(as of October 1, 2011)

Area	Cities / Municipalities	Countries / Regions
Asia	1,494	30
Oceania	125	9
Africa	327	40
Europe	2,302	45
North America	282	3
Latin America and the Caribbean	490	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,020</b>	<b>151</b>

### **Mr. MATSUI Kazumi, the new mayor of Hiroshima steps in as president of Mayors for Peace**

Following Hiroshima's mayoral election on April 10, 2011, Mr. MATSUI Kazumi, the new Mayor of Hiroshima, assumed the office of Mayors for Peace president. We humbly ask your continued support and guidance under our new leadership.



**MATSUI Kazumi,**  
Mayor of Hiroshima

### **Mayor Matsui's Comments on exceeding 5,000**

I am very pleased that Mayors for Peace membership has exceeded its target of 5,000.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for this achievement made possible through the devoted efforts of the executive and member cities of Mayors for Peace, our staff, 2020 Vision Campaigners and individual volunteers, like-minded nations, allied NGOs and many other civil society groups.

I believe the passing of this milestone augurs an era of rapid progress around the world toward the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.

To further promote the realization of a nuclear weapons convention, now the central element in our 2020 Vision, Mayors for Peace will strengthen campaign activities while continuing to increase membership. Our Executive Conference will soon be meeting to deliberate and plan concrete measures. I thank you and ask for your continued support.

September 16, 2011

MATSUI Kazumi  
Mayor of Hiroshima  
President of Mayors for Peace

### **New Executive Cities**

The following four cities became executive cities of Mayors for Peace. Now we have 17 members of our executive committee, including the president, vice presidents and executive cities.

Appointed on March 25

- **Fongo-Tongo (Cameroon)**
- **Montreal (Canada)**

Appointed on July 12

- **Mexico City (Mexico)**

Appointed on October 24

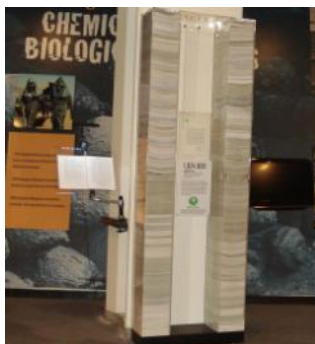
- **Montevideo (Uruguay)**

**Cities Are Not Targets!  
(CANT) Petition Forms  
on Permanent Display  
at UN Headquarters**

The 1.02 million signature petition forms collected since February 2007 for the Mayors for Peace "Cities Are Not Targets! (CANT)" initiative are now on permanent display at UN Headquarters in New York. The petition forms were submitted to the UN by the Mayors for Peace delegation in May 2010 on the occasion of the NPT Review Conference.

The exhibit, consisting of two three-meter-high towers of petition forms, was inaugurated by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Sergio Duarte, and US Messenger of Peace, actor Michael Douglas, at a formal ceremony on March 24. The CANT monument is the first-ever permanent civil society exhibit not donated by a government to be installed at UN Headquarters. Three *hibakusha* from Japan, including a Korean, attended the ceremony.

Mayors for Peace expects that diplomats and UN visitors from around the world will see this permanent exhibition at the UN Headquarters, feel the magnitude of this global grassroots wish for a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, and enhance momentum for the abolition of nuclear weapons.



(Photo Credit: UNODA)

**World Human Rights Cities Forum**

[Gwangju, South Korea, May 15 to 18, 2011]



Mr. Steve Leeper, Chairman of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, attended the 2011 World Human Rights Cities Forum in Gwangju, South Korea.

He spoke on behalf of the mayor of Hiroshima about the peace policies of Hiroshima and Mayors for Peace.

**The 1st Gautam Buddha International Peace Award Ceremony and the A-Bomb Photo Panel exhibition [May 15 to 20, 2011]**

Mayor Tomihisa Taue of Nagasaki and Dr. Tadatoshi Akiba, former Mayor of Hiroshima, received the 1st Gautam Buddha International Peace Award on May 17 at a ceremony in Lumbini, Nepal.



Award Ceremony

The award ceremony was held on Buddha's birthday, and despite the heat, attracted a large crowd to Lumbini Park. With about 1,000 in attendance, President Ram Baran Yadav conferred the award medals to Mayor Taue and Dr. Akiba.

On May 18, the following day, the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Photo Panel Exhibition opened at the Memorial Hall of Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu with 20 photo panels from Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

The exhibition has drawn more than 500 visitors, including Tribhuvan University students and faculty members of the general public and guests of honor from the opening ceremony, such as Education Minister Mr. Gangalal Tuladhar, the Vice Chancellor of Tribhuvan University, Mr. Tatsuo Mizuno,

**US Conference of Mayors Adopts Strong Resolution  
in Support of Mayors for Peace [Baltimore, US, June 20, 2011]**

On June 20, 2011, a resolution sponsored by US members of Mayors for Peace entitled "CALLING ON THE PRESIDENT TO WORK WITH LEADERS OF OTHER NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES FOR ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY 2020 AND CALLING ON CONGRESS TO CUT FUNDING FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND TO REDIRECT THOSE FUNDS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF CITIES" was unanimously adopted at the 79th US Conference of Mayors annual meeting held June 17 to 21 in Baltimore, US. The resolution expressed strong support for the activities of Mayors for Peace.

Prior to adoption, it was endorsed on June 19 by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the first UN chief to address the USCM.

## **Member City Activities**

Member cities around the world are making efforts for peace. Here are some examples reported to the Secretariat since March 2011.

### ■ **Nishinomiya, Japan: Peace Projects in 2010**

Nishinomiya City implemented various activities including the A-bomb Exhibition (July 21 to 26), Parents and Children's Bus Tour to Hiroshima (August 5 to 6), Lantern Floating for Peace (August 7), outreach activities prior to the war-end anniversary on August 15 (August 10), promoting the anniversary for the Nuclear Free Peace City Declaration (eight days around December 10) and a Peace Assembly to commemorate membership in Mayors for Peace (December 19).

### ■ **Reykjavik, Iceland: Mini Hiroshima Nagasaki A-Bomb Exhibition (February 21 to March 8)**

A mini Hiroshima Nagasaki A-Bomb Exhibition held at Reykjavik City Hall, co-organized by the Embassy of Japan in Iceland and the City of Reykjavik, was the first A-bomb exhibition in Iceland.

Exhibition items included about 20 photo posters and books, which were provided by the National Council of Japan Nuclear-Free Local Authorities when Ambassador Natsume met with Mayor Taue of Nagasaki in 2010.



(Photo Credit: Embassy of Japan in Iceland and the City of Reykjavik)

### ■ **Paranaguá, Brazil: A-Bomb Exhibition and Survivor's Testimony (July 4)**

During commemorations of the 363rd anniversary of the city of Paranaguá (PR), Brazil, the mayor of Paranaguá hosted a special event to celebrate membership in Mayors for Peace and formally open a public A-bomb exhibition. Testimony from representatives of the Hibakusha Association of Brazil and a screening of the documentary "A Mother's Prayer" at City Hall moved the audience to tears and raised public awareness of the inhumanity of nuclear weapons.

### ■ **Oxford, UK: Mayors for Peace /NFLA English Forum Joint Seminar (July 8)**

Hosted by the Lord Mayor of Oxford, the UK Mayors for Peace Working Group held a business meeting, followed by a joint seminar with the NFLA English Forum in Oxford, UK. At the business meeting agreement was achieved on a joint letter to recruit new members and a UK tour for the Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb exhibition.



Joint Seminar in Oxford

### ■ **La Victoria, Peru: A Thousand Cranes for Peace (August 6)**

Over one hundred people marched through the streets of La Victoria, a new member city of Mayors for Peace in Peru, to commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This event, called "A Thousand Cranes for Peace", was organized by the Women Network of Local Authorities of Lima and Callao (MUALIC) together with Mayors for Peace. It was held in La Victoria City Hall. The mayors of the Lima municipalities of San Borja, Miraflores, San Martín de Porres, Surquillo and metropolitan Lima, folded paper cranes and called for peace and nuclear disarmament during the march.

### ■ **Manchester, UK: Manchester Peace Festival and more**

Manchester City held the Manchester Peace Festival from September 17 to 25, launched the Manchester City Centre Peace and Social Justice Trail Website in May, and helped to arrange for the Nagasaki-donated exhibition to go on tour across the UK.

### ■ **Abashiri, Japan: Commemorates the 20th Anniversary of its Peace City Declaration**

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of its Peace City Declaration, Abashiri City provided opportunities to think about and wish for peace, including a Panel Exhibition on the A-bombings and the Battle of Okinawa (August 9 to 14). Paper cranes were collected, exhibited in City Hall and dedicated to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima in September.

Others include: Nine cities (Aalst, Antwerp, Bastogne, Brussels, Ghent, Leuven, Mechelen, Mons and Ypres) in Belgium and peace organizations commemorating the atomic bombing through various events (August 6); Fujisawa, Japan dispatching parent-child reporter teams to Hiroshima in August; Zushi, Japan holding the 1st Zushi Peace Day (August 25 to 27); Mazarino, Italy hosting Unaccompanied Children Asylum Seekers as Clear Example of Peaceful Coexistence; and Rhodes, Greece holding the 4th International Anti Nuclear Festival of Rhodes (September 12 to 21).

● **Recent Developments (March — September 2011)** ●

- \* March 3: Mayors for Peace’s representative addressed an “Interactive side-event with members of the NGO Committee on Disarmament” following a plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament [Geneva, Switzerland].
- \* March 24: Cities Are Not Targets! (CANT) petition forms go on permanent display at UN Headquarters in New York.
- \* March 25: Fongo-Tongo (Cameroon) and Montreal (Canada) agreed to be executive cities.
- \* April 11: Mr. MATSUI Kazumi, the new Mayor of Hiroshima, assumed office as the new President of Mayors for Peace.
- \* May 15-18: Mayors for Peace’s representative attended the World Human Rights Cities Forum [Gwangju, South Korea]
- \* May 17: The Mayor of Nagasaki attended the 1st Gautam Buddha International Peace Award Ceremony [Lumbini, Nepal].
- \* May 17: Mayors for Peace hosted “Ecological and Humanitarian Consequences of Nuclear Warfare” Seminar [Geneva, Switzerland]
- \* May 18: Mayors for Peace signed an agreement of co-operation with the Federación de Municipios Libres de Perú (FEMULP) [Lima, Peru].
- \* May 20: Mayors for Peace signed an agreement of co-operation with the Federación Colombiana de Municipios (FCM) [Bogota, Colombia].
- \* May 23: Executive officials sent a letter of protest against the nuclear tests conducted in November 2010 and in March 2011 to the United States and the U.S. embassy in Japan.
- \* June 20: Resolution sponsored by US members of Mayors for Peace adopted at the 79th US Conference of Mayors annual meeting [Baltimore, US]
- \* July 1: Japanese membership exceeded 1,000. First member city (Riyadh Region, capital city) from Saudi Arabia joined; membership expanded to 151 countries / regions.
- \* July 8: Mayors for Peace / NFLA English Forum Joint Seminar [Oxford, UK]
- \* July 12: Mexico City (Mexico) agreed to become an executive city.
- \* July 20: Executive officials sent a letter to the United States and the U.S. embassy in Japan to protest the nuclear tests conducted in December 2010 and in February 2011.
- \* Sept. 16: The number of member cities exceeded 5,000.

**From the Secretariat**

● These days, nearly all our communication and information exchange takes place via e-mail. Therefore, we are doing our best to update the e-mail addresses and other information for each city in our database. Please send us your latest contact information, and be sure to inform us if your mayor, contact person or your preferred e-mail address changes. Please help us stay in touch.

● **Please donate to the 2020 Vision Campaign**  
 Mayors for Peace is calling on member cities, foundations, like-minded corporations, and individuals to contribute funds for the global growth of the 2020 Vision Campaign. Please send your donation to:

Bank Account : Vredesfonds Stad Ieper  
 Bank name : DEXIA  
 Account Number : 088-2371003-27  
 IBAN nr. : BE48-0882-3710-0327  
 BIC(SWIFT code) : GKCCBEBB



**Activities in Latin America: Peru (left), Argentina (upper right) and Costa Rica (lower right)**

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