The 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace

Session V
Summary and Reporting of Session II, III & IV

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Nakabe Hall, Nagasaki University Bunkyo Campus

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Summary and Reporting:
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Adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons
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Thank you very much for waiting. We are going to start Session V. Mayor of Nagasaki, Mayor Taue is going to chair the session.

Chairperson: Mr. Tomihisa Taue, Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Nagasaki City, Japan
Good afternoon. I am Taue, Mayor of Nagasaki. We are now coming to the final program of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace. This is Session V.

First, concerning Session II, III and IV, the moderator for each session is going to give us a report. Then, we are going to adopt the Nagasaki Appeal. Now, let us start with the moderator for Session II “Roles of Local Governments.” Prof. Suzuki, Director of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, please.

Summary and Reporting of Session II:
Prof. Tatsujiro Suzuki, Director, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan
Thank you. I served as moderator for Session II. I am Tatsujiro Suzuki. The theme for the session was “Roles of Local Governments.” First presentation was from Mr. Thomas Hermann from Hannover, Germany, and then Mayor Jaime Fresnedi from Muntinlupa, Philippines, and from Malakoff and Grigny in France, Mr., Michel Cibot and Mayor Philippe Rio made a presentation, and from Ayabe City in Japan, Mayor Zenya Yamazaki gave a presentation.

Concerning the presentation by Hannover, “50 Cities – 50 Traces” project was introduced. And also the mayor said that Hannover is the sister city of Hiroshima, and has agreed to contribute and support the growth of Mayors for Peace. On July 8, commemorating ICJ’s advisory opinion, they have the Flag Day. I was very much impressed by the gingko tree project. The planting of seedlings of gingko which has been grown from the seeds from the A-bombed tree.

The City of Muntinlupa talked about the very shocking fact that ISIS is having a very
serious impact on the children, and talked about the importance of peace education for children.

France is a nuclear-weapon state. Malakoff and Grigny talked about the efforts made as members of Mayors for Peace. AFCDRP and LPACP were introduced. They also talked about the collaboration with Africa. People are sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and also talked about the importance of peace and peace education. Issues like violence and poverty in cities, makes those people most vulnerable to climate change, and talked about the importance of culture of peace. I was impressed by the concept of culture of peace.

Then Ayabe City in Japan, the first Japanese city to declare as the member of World Federation, is quite active in peace activities. It’s a sister city with Israel, and Ayabe City leads the Middle East Peace Project. From Israel and Palestine, they invite children affected by war and they stay in a Japanese city for two weeks. The project started in 2003. I was moved by a former participant’s words, “Realization of peace was impossible for my parents’ generation, but perhaps it would be possible for our generation.”

Then we had Q&A. It was about the contents of peace education, how much impact the peace education can have on the reality, and importance of inheritance of the memories, and how we can ensure to have impact on the policies.

Then Ms. Maria Fernanda Olvera Cabrera, representing Mexico City, talked about the project. This is a disarmament project in families. When people bring those arms to city office, they are given something positive instead, so this is an ongoing grass-root level disarmament.

Then Mr. Michel Tomasek from Dunkirk talked about a project of memory cities, networking cities for the inheritance of war memories.

From a nuclear-weapons country, India, Mr. Thomas Mathew of Mallapuzhaserry City talked about collecting petition for peace, and he presented collected signatures to the
mayor of Hiroshima.

Then Mr. Kenji Kitahashi of Kitakyushu City talked about the tree-planting project of Kayoko cherry trees, originally from Nagasaki.

Then, the former mayor of Rawanduz, Mr. MP. Serwan Abdullah Ismail from Iraq talked about the ongoing suffering, especially those caused by the use of chemical weapons. At this moment, people are suffering. This is what he told us.

Then, there was a summary given by Mr. Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace. He said in each city, taking its own approach, efforts for peace are done quite sincerely. He was very much impressed by the efforts made by various cities. As you heard from Mr. Komizo, He gave us a very passionate message, saying that everybody is really serious. Sharing of experience and solidarity gives us strengths to Mayors for Peace. And he said that we have to show that Mayors for Peace can make a strong contribution.

Please allow me to add three more points. I think I found something common among different presentations and comments. I found three of them. One is the balance between rationality and emotion. We tend to focus more on the rational aspect because we are scientists, but art and testimonies by hibakusha and photos and movies, they are part of the culture. We have heard about the culture of peace. We have to influence both the rational aspect on human spirit, together with emotional aspect. What happened in the past is part of history, but learning from the history to support the present, and the present is the starting point for future. When we think about peace education, someone asked if learning about the past alone is enough, and I would say that learning about the past is the basis of today, and today is the starting point for future. We have to come back to this issue of the relationship between past, present and future.

In the previous session, another important concept was network: networking, connection, and collaboration. One of the strengths of Mayors for Peace is that we have a network. And connection among individual people and individual cities are the basis of the global network. I was very much impressed by the fact that the members of
Mayors for Peace know that what you are doing in your city and are stimulating each other, uniting the overall efforts. So networking is the third concept. Although the term “network” sounds quite flat, but actually when we use the term “networking,” it means something very deep.

In the session, I think I became passionate and asked you to join me. Ultimately, we need to think about the importance of humanity. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, and approaches toward the adoption was done in humanity-based, or humanitarian approach. If we forget about humanity, we cannot achieve anything. Remember your humanity and forget the rest. This is an expression from Russell-Einstein Manifesto, and I would like to conclude with the same word. Remember your humanity and forget the rest. Thank you very much.

Chairperson
Thank you very much. On the theme of “Roles of Local Governments,” this theme is a kind of basis or fundamental theme for Mayors for Peace. As we see more members, we started to see some regional differences. But this theme, roles of local governments, is always new and old. I think that the summary was quite insightful because the talks were about the basis for activities.

Now I’d like to turn to Session III. Moderator, Ms. Keiko Nakamura, Associate Professor of the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University is going to give us a summary.

Summary and Reporting of Session III:
Ms. Keiko Nakamura, Associate Professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition (RECNA), Nagasaki University, Japan
Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to first show you the slides of discussions and activities that took place yesterday, and I would like to go through my summary. I would like you to look at those photos to see what happened yesterday. Some of you were perhaps absent yesterday. You see many young people in the photos, and “The Role of Youth” was the theme of Session III. In our efforts to try to eradicate nuclear weapons, the role of youth is, needless to say, important, and that has been
repeatedly said. As Prof. Suzuki mentioned earlier, logic and emotions, young people gaining knowledge from different points of view and perspectives, and they learn how other people think, and then they begin to form their own ideas, and in that sense, knowledge is important as the basis. But humanity or personality, young people don’t have such a tragic experience themselves, but they have the ability to have empathy to the sad experiences of those people. And they could understand such an event as something that could also happen to them. Having compassion or empathy toward others is really important for them to develop.

Now, in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, it is said that nuclear disarmament education is more important. Then how does it relate to the discussion we had yesterday? Yes, of course we need to implement peace education programs and outcome of such programs is very important. But the process of preparing a peace education program needs involvement and input from young people, and that itself is going to be a learning opportunity for them. For example, yesterday, young people made plans of peace activities, and one of them was providing multilingual translations of testimonies of hibakusha. Multilingual translations of testimonies themselves are very important because they can be understood by various people. But on the other hand, in that process of translation, they will learn to have compassion and to try to feel what they really felt in that tragedy. They also have to learn the historical background. Translation is not just a matter of language. They need to have an attitude to try to learn the feelings and emotions, the real experience of hibakusha. Young people in each member city, are working together with member cities, for peace program plan is very important, and I think that was so demonstrated in the discussion session yesterday.

Now I would like to go through what happened yesterday in the discussion. At first, it started with a speech by His Excellency Taro Kono, Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs. Then we had presentations by two member cities of Mayors for Peace. One is Manchester City from the UK, and the second is Granollers City from Spain. They introduced their peace activities and showed us very interesting photos. For instance, in Manchester, they have Project G. They use seedlings taken from the A-bombed gingko tree, and what was very impressive is that they use this motif, A-bombed gingko tree and they use it in multiple directions in peace education. Tree planting is just one action,
that seems very natural for such a tree, but then, it could become a starting point for creative ideas about how the tree can be used for various other ideas. Then Granollers discussed a city open to peace. How traces and legacies of civil war can be used in peace education was demonstrated by Granollers City. That was very impressive.

And then, high school students, Hiroshima and Nagasaki Commercial High School, students from these two schools made a very eloquent presentation and that was truly impressive to me. For instance, Peace Department Store or Drama Club of Nagasaki Commercial High School, and they issued a Joint Peace Declaration. Those are the activities that can be done because they are high school students. Young people, varied in age, some elementary school children or those in their twenties, they have different age level and different social backgrounds. So they take advantage of their own situation and background as they get involved in peace activities.

After the presentation, young people got engaged in the group work. Some of those groups also made presentations, for instance, Hiroshima Nagasaki Peace Messengers, Nagasaki Youth Delegation and Kyoto University of Foreign Studies. For group work, some of you are here, and later I would like to hear from you what impression you obtained from that session. Some may have been surprised. It was an activity for young people’s groups to work with cities to plan a peace activity. This is not just discussion on the desk. It’s not for the sake of discussion. They had to come up with a plan which is workable and practicable toward the next Mayors for Peace conference, and that was a very unique and interesting attempt, tried for the first time in the general conference.

Thirty-two young people from all over the country participated. College students, high school students and adults, and some came from Tokyo and Kyoto, and some were international students now studying in Japan. They were split into six groups and already spent three weeks for the preparation for yesterday’s discussion. Each group did preparatory studies on the city assigned to them, and for them, some of the cities were not known before. Earlier I mentioned that the whole process is a learning process for the young people, so they learned about the city assigned to them from scratch. They had discussions in the process. On certain cases, they sent email enquiries to city officials. And they produced short-term and long-term plans for peace of each cities,
and yesterday, taking 50 minutes, six groups from Group A to Group F had a final process of discussion. Musashino City of Tokyo, Vitry-sur-Seine of France, Ypres of Belgium, Mexico City of Mexico, Fongo-Tongo of Cameroon, and Biograd na Moru of Croatia, worked with those young people’s groups respectively. The plans they came up with could be applied not only to those cities they worked with, but also to other cities. Some of the cities here may find some of the plans that young people came up with very interesting. With that notion in mind, young people discussed and prepared short-term and long-term plans.

Let me go through the discussion they had. First, on the point of young people, some said that they do have interest in peace activities, but felt they cannot join them so easily. So some suggested on creating a casual forum for students to get together easily and the city could provide such place for young people to get together to talk about peace and war, and they could invite local celebrities or city leadership to such discussions.

Another was that students should interview survivors of war of respective cities, and they could take part in a speech competition, and the winners could go and visit their counterpart city for further studies and experience. Exchange program was also mentioned by other groups, but the important point is that such student education abroad program should be based upon peace education. As part of the study abroad program, students could get involved in translation of various testimonies.

Some of the proposals were very unique to young people, for instance, use of SNS or use of new information technology. For instance, AR, augmented reality, or the use of virtual reality was mentioned as the enabling technologies. In Germany, there are what they call “stumbling stones.” Likewise, physical trail of peace exists in different cities. If you wear AR glasses, then, on the pathway, the walker is able to get various visual information about what happened on that trail. That was one plan.

There were many proposals for workshops and events, but the important thing is that those events or workshops shouldn’t be just one time event, but as is exemplified by the term “culture of peace,” those events should be able to take deep roots in the local communities. Some mentioned that a big change can be brought about from a small city.
Also, networking importance was emphasized, so in various member cities of Mayors for Peace, maybe some cities could establish a section of youths so that young people are able to get in touch with each other and network with each other as we go ahead.

Their contents of the presentations are shown on the white papers which are posted outside in the foyer, so please stop by and read them. Yesterday, the young people became friends with each other, so last night after the discussion, they all came together in a gathering and they said that they were really happy because they were able to speak with a mayor, the leader of a local authority, and that was a hard-to-get occasion for them. They were able to discuss not about what they want to do, but what the city needs. They listened to demands and needs of the city, and they had the real opportunity of making a thorough research about the city beforehand, and came up with a plan which is suitable for the city. And they had a very good communication with each other and with the cities. They already exchanged business cards, name cards and addresses, and they were very happy.

I hope that the experience they had will not be the end, but is a step toward a further networking and activities. Thank you very much. I have spoken too long.

**Chairperson**

Thank you very much. We had the discussion on the roles of the cities, and that was the main theme we have been discussing from the beginning of Mayors for Peace, but the roles of youth is a new subject matter which is very much paid attention to by many representatives. I think it was a challenge. I was watching what was discussed in the groups. They were quite lively and buoyant, and Prof. Nakamura has been broadcasting the contents of discussions, about what’s happening in each table. That was so good. I am so glad that we organized that session. On the second floor of this auditorium, there were junior high school students from four junior high schools, and they were observing what’s happening on the stage. They were very much frustrated because they were seated in distance so they came to the stage. Together with high school students, who were a little bit older than they are, they were watching what was being discussed there. This trial was a great success, I thought. In the near future, as we continue our activities
of Mayors for Peace, we hope that we will able to continue this kind of meetings, with this as the first meeting of youth, especially deepening exchanges between mayors of local authorities and young people. The points of discussion are listed on the posters in the hallway.

Now, Session IV, this was held today. Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is going to give us the summary.

**Summary and Reporting of Session IV:**

**Mr. Masao Tomonaga, Chairman of Organizing Committee of the Nagasaki Global Citizens’ Assembly for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Japan**

I believe most of the audience attended Session IV, which ended just now. I don’t think I have much to report, but there were three presentations. The theme of the session is “Roles of NGOs, Citizens’ Groups and A-bombs Survivors’ Groups, etc.” The members of the cities, what they are doing and what they can do.

As the first speaker from Hannover, Germany, an art project was presented. Starting from next year for three years, they are going to go through more than 20 cities including the other cities in Europe, including Berlin. “50 Cities – 50 Traces,” an international art project. The idea and conception is quite unique. Whenever we talk about peace activities, we try to set a theme, try to collect people and have a discussion that is the ordinary way. But their idea was quite different. When we think about human life, it is very transient and ephemeral. If you want to leave something in the society, on this globe, maybe if you become a grown-up, which can be counted as the legacy to the cities, but for each individual’s mind and heart, there is something they would like to keep as a trace or as their legacy. Those can be expressed in ways of drawings and pictures. There, the theme of peace can be embraced.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the NPT. Especially NATO and EU countries, embracing those issues in Germany, linking with the abolition of nuclear weapons and incorporating that theme, they have made such a plan in art project.
The biggest objective is to have people get-together. Otherwise you cannot start anything. When you have people gathered here, then dialogue and friendship can be created. The friendship can become the foundation of furtherance of peace. One women’s art collection can be shown. It was quite refreshing as an idea and as a plan. For us, engaging in peace activities, it was quite eye-opening.

Second presentation is from our adjacent nation, South Korea, a very close place to Nagasaki. From Jeju Island, we listened to the peace activities, especially because it is a peace island. Rooted in the history of Jeju, after the war, released from the colony by Japan, they thought how to unify the Korean Peninsula. But there were differences in notions, and because of that, there was a fighting before the Korean War. In Jeju Island, opponents were massacred and as many as 30,000 people were killed. So this is the beginning of the conception of this idea, based on their history in Jeju.

As a local authority, they have the Peace Research Institute. Geographically, Jeju Island is located in the center of Japan, South Korea, and China. So they hold various peace forums. For example, UNITAR (United Nations Institute for Training and Research)’s human resource development program and youth peace forum, which I believe there were many participants from Japan. In such circumstances, one of the big themes they are tackling is the currently divided Korean Peninsula, and exchanges between south and north should be promoted in the private sector. There are various volunteer groups, and arts and cultural groups. They can incorporate and integrate all those different activities and initiatives of Jeju City. With a very long history, they have an assembly. I believe there were 6,000 people gathered in that assembly.

And they have a plan to establish the “peace belt.” Northeast Asia nuclear-free zone is one of the themes studied in RECNA in Nagasaki University, but in the broader scope of ideas, they are planning to create the peace belt. They will also work on ecology, and embrace those ideas as well. Very specific ideas are planned. With the DPRK, they are planning to invite them to have a dialogue in Jeju Forum, and exchanges of visits between the North and the South. There is a big mountain in Jeju Island, and there is Mt. Baekdu in the DPRK, and there is a plan to have exchanges between the two tourist destinations. I believe they are wonderful plans.
And the last presentation was by the representative from Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Survivors Council. Their nationwide organization is Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (*hidankyo*). The speaker talked about their history. Starting from 1950s, especially after the Bikini Atoll H-bomb testing, there was a tremendous surge of campaign, starting from the housewives in Tokyo, which spread to Shizuoka Prefecture. That is the movement to adamantly oppose against H-bombs and A-bombs. She has given quick rundown of the history, especially focusing on hibakusha of Nagasaki. It is also a negative history for the hibakusha suffering from injuries and aftereffects.

She was focusing on the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Young Men and Women’s Association, and the two associations merged which became a nationwide organization, the Japan Confederation. But there must have been a lot of difficulties, be it the financial matters, and they are expanding its network. In the UN disarmament conference, “No more Hiroshima, no more Nagasaki, no more war” was advocated by Senji Yamaguchi. He died several years ago. Through the forces of hibakusha, such waves have continued. In New York, in the negotiation process of the Ban Treaty, there were the voices of hibakusha, and in the preamble of the Ban Treaty, a credit was given to the voices of hibakusha.

This is my personal note, but testimonies of hibakusha have spread out to the world, but after 50 years from the end of the war, there was the pessimistic perception among the hibakusha at that time. They started to be concerned that “We are not able to be heard. We have been calling for the total elimination of nuclear weapons, but I don’t think we are successful in communicating our voices. We are making our best efforts, but we are not being heard.” This was their pessimistic perception at that time. It’s been 22 years since then. After 72 years from the end of the war, especially in the past five years, we had been focusing on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, and there was a big movement to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. I believe the origin of such activities was the voices of hibakusha. Ms. Yokoyama has given such history.
After those three presentations, there was a general discussion. We took a lot of questions, among which the important question raised was, the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted, but in the case of Japan, because of the security policy, that is the nuclear umbrella policy which they are clinging on to, so they are not able to participate. They insist that this is the decision made by the central government, but on the other hand, citizens, especially hibakusha think, “How can the country that suffered the atomic bombing- not able to participate in this Treaty?” There is the frustration among part of the citizens.

And there was a question to Hannover, and Mr. Hermann, Vice Mayor of Hannover said, among the citizens in Germany, because nuclear weapons of the United States are deployed in Germany, there are a lot of citizens who think it as a risk, and majority of the people wish to join the Treaty, but as a member of NATO, it is not possible. I believe the Netherlands is the member of NATO who participated in the negotiation, and the only country which voted against it. This is indeed the issue which is embraced by the German government.

Now, how are we going to bring the voices of citizens to the central government? There, I believe we are able to act as intermediary for the citizens, and there was a big speech by Mr. Komizo, Secretary General. In the provision of the Treaty, a special provision was included by a proposal made by Mayors for Peace, so that the nuclear-weapon nations, as well as allies under their nuclear umbrella can join the Treaty. We hope that we will be able to push forward to try to fill the gap between the nuclear-weapon nations and abolition advocates. We should never be divided. We need to try to unify and fuse those different opinions. Ms. Nakamitsu, representative of the United Nations who attended the Peace Ceremony on behalf of the United Nations as the Under-Secretary-General, said, there are nuclear-weapon nations who are the members of the NPT, and there are, on the other hand, the advocates of banning of nuclear weapons. She questioned, “Is there any idea to try to fuse and integrate those different opinions?” I believe this is the most important question. This was raised by one of the citizens in the panel. Because of that, we had a very good discussion.

There are some other points of the discussions, but if I start to say everything I don’t
think I have enough time. Civil society, civil groups and the roles to be played by them should be culminated to the activities of the cities. I thought Session IV was very good. Thank you very much.

**Chairperson**

Thank you very much. Session IV focused on the roles of the civil society, and the civil society is the source of power for Mayors for Peace. The background and history of each cities are different, and therefore it’s important and it’s possible to learn from each other.

We are 20 minutes behind, but I would like to invite some comments from the member cities participating here. Anybody with comments or would like to share your impression about the conference? We will invite two representatives, and they are given the floor.

**Comment from the Member City:**

**Mr. Hoshyar Siwaily, Kurdistan Democratic Party, Iraq**

Good morning. My name is Siwaily. I am heartfelt for the large delegation. We’ve come from Iraqi Kurdistan, we’ve come 12,000 kilometers, across the border of many countries, to come and join you in remembering the victims of these two terrible tragedies. We are here also to show our commitment and extend our hands to you and to the member cities in enhancing peace in the world. The Mayor of Sinjar was with us, but he had to fly to Karachi and he couldn’t attend this morning session. He had a statement to read and he gave me this statement to read it on his behalf. So please allow me to read this statement.

The Yazidis, I don’t know to what extent you’ve heard about, but I’m sure you have heard about the massacre and genocide of the Yazidis in Iraqi Kurdistan three years ago, but this statement is about that genocide, and the massacre of the Yazidis. The first act of genocide in the 21st century was carried out against Yazidis Kurds in Iraqi Kurdistan on August 3, 2014 by the terrorist organization of the Islamic State. This unprovoked attack on mostly civilian people caught the attention of the world and facilitated the creation of an international coalition to combat the Islamic State worldwide. The
Yazidis, at distinct religious community are one of the most ancient components of Kurdish nation. They are mainly concentrated in the Sinjar district in Iraqi Kurdistan. Sinjar is located 150 kilometers to the west of the city of Mosul, and close to the Mt. Sinjar. The Yazidis have being persecuted throughout history because of their religion and their nationality.

The latest massacre on August 3 was the most brutal attack on the Yazidis in their recent history to wipe out the entire population and to forcibly convert the survivors to Islam. On this day, the Islamic State terrorists, equipped with heavy weapons captured from the Iraqi Army in Mosul two months earlier, commenced their onslaught and extermination on this peaceful district of Sinjar. Thousands of Yazidis were killed and buried in mass graves. Thousands among women and children were taken as prisoners. Those who managed to survive took refuge in Mt. Sinjar or fled to Syria or the Kurdistan region. A total number of 6,417 people, among them, 3,387 were women, 600 children were captured and were taken to Mosul and Syria. They were subjected to the most inhumane and cruelest treatment by the IS jihadists. The women and young girls were subjected to physical and sexual violence, including systematic rape and sex slaving.

The Kurdistan Regional Government commenced a concentrated effort to locate and rescue the prisoners. It has, with the help of others, managed to rescue 3,092 people out of total abductees of Yazidiz. A total of 46 mass graves have so far been discovered, in which 1,724 bodies were found and reburied. To this day, more than 5,000 people are missing.

Sinjar was liberated in two stages. The last offensive by the Peshmerga force on November 15, 2015 defeated Islamic State, and liberated the town. The offensive by the Islamic State and the subsequent military operations led to the destruction of more than 85% of the town. The majority of the people have not been able to return to their homes, due to the slow progress in the reconstruction process.

The people of Sinjar desire a decent and peaceful life. The international community can play an important role in assisting the Yazidi people by ensuring that the genocide of
August 2014 will never be repeated. I’m providing direct support for the reconstruction of this beautiful and historically-rooted district. It is needless to say that the ultimate salvation and permanent end to this historical persecution and operation of the people of Kurdistan, including the Yazidis, are achieved through the establishment of an independent state. Realizing this task, and learning from our tragic history, the political leadership of Kurdistan has decided to organize a referendum in Iraqi Kurdistan on September 25, 2017. This referendum will enable people to make a wise and conscious decision about their region.

We hope that the distinguished participants of this Mayors for Peace conference in Nagasaki, as a contribution to the world peace, support the people of Kurdistan and understand the legitimate quest for peace and safety. Thank you very much.

Chairperson
Thank you very much. This was a statement from a representative from Iraq. Each region has their own important issues. As we see the increase of membership, together, with global efforts, we also have another pillar of activities led by the Lead Cities in each region. And this concludes the time for the comments.

Adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal and the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons:

Chairperson
Next is the adoption of the Nagasaki Appeal. Please refer to the Nagasaki Appeal that has been distributed to you. Yesterday, we had the drafting committee to come up with this draft proposal of Nagasaki Appeal. In Session I, we decided on the action plan, and as part of the action plan, we say that we are going to make efforts to ask for the early entry into effect of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. So, we propose to adopt this Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons. And this draft also requires your adoption. So, Mayor Matsui is going to read the Nagasaki Appeal.

Mr. Kazumi Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, Mayor of Hiroshima, Japan
Let me read out the Nagasaki Appeal.
“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, and 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”

Thank you.

Chairperson
Thank you very much. President Matsui read through the Nagasaki Appeal. Any questions from the participants? If not, I would like to ask you, those in favor of adopting this appeal as it is?
(Applause)

Thank you very much.
Now, I would like to read out the Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons.

“Special Resolution Requesting the Early Bringing into Effect of the Treaty Prohibiting Nuclear Weapons

“We call on the cities around the world to unite in cross-border cooperation to pave the way towards the abolition of nuclear weapons.”

This call made by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki led to the establishment of “Mayors for Peace.” Since then, we have appealed for the establishment of a legal framework to prohibit nuclear weapons as we believed it to be essential in achieving their abolition.

On July 7, 2017, these efforts bore fruit. The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which explicitly bans nuclear weapons, was adopted at United Nations Headquarters by 122 nations, a figure representing 60 percent of all United Nations’ member states. This was made possible by the heartfelt appeal by the hibakusha and like-minded people that “nuclear weapons should be abolished,” an appeal that gained worldwide support and moved the nations. Mayors for Peace with 7,417 member cities from 162 countries and regions, wholeheartedly welcomes the adoption of this treaty.

The 9th General Conference of Mayors of Peace was held after the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. At the General Conference, we the members of Mayors for Peace, renewed our determination to strive for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons.

“Let Nagasaki be the last atomic-bombed site in the world.”
Here in Nagasaki, we Mayors for Peace affirmed that these words are the common wish
and will of civil society and resolved our commitment to perpetuate these words for all time.

Mayors for Peace hereby resolves to urge all nations, including the nuclear-armed states, to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and bring it into effect at the earliest possible date.

August 10, 2017
Nagasaki City, Japan”

Now, any questions about this special resolution? It seems none, so those in favor of adopting this special resolution as it is?

(Applause)

Thank you very much for your support and approval. As the outcome of the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, we have thus adopted the Nagasaki Appeal and the special resolution. These documents are going to be distributed to all member cities of our organization, to UN and other international organizations and NGOs concerned. This concludes Session V. We are a little behind the schedule. I apologize for the poor management of the session. I thank you very much for your kind cooperation for Session V. Thank you very much.