

Mayors for Peace Nagasaki Appeal

We, the representatives of 134 cities, 26 organizations from 33 countries, gathered at the 7th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in Nagasaki to address our keynote theme: Nuclear Weapons Abolition is in our Hands! - Let's get the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol adopted in 2010.

Since 2003, Mayors for Peace has been actively campaigning to rid the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2020. We are delighted by the UN's designation of a Fourth International Decade for Disarmament, to begin in less than six months. We call on leaders and citizens everywhere to promote awareness of this Decade (2010-2020) and generate unprecedented public determination to liberate ourselves from the threat of nuclear annihilation.

The surest path to a nuclear-weapon-free world is stipulated by the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol. Thus, we call on the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) to adopt this Protocol and implement it faithfully during the Decade for Disarmament. We note the special role of Japan in this regard. Hiroshima and Nagasaki are Japanese cities. As the only A-bombed nation, Japan should lead the global movement towards a nuclear-weapon-free world. The most effective way to do so is to champion unequivocally the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol.

Whether through the NPT Review Conference, the Conference on Disarmament, or the United Nations General Assembly, the international community must launch convincing negotiations towards a nuclear-weapon-free world in 2010. We will work closely with all individuals, groups and nations of good faith to ensure that this vital step is accomplished. We welcome the 5-point plan of the UN Secretary General; in particular the prominence it accords commencement of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention. We ask mayors everywhere to note that, at his initiative, the International Day of Peace, 21 September 2009, is devoted to the theme: "WMD: We Must Disarm!"

As mayors already contending with the impact of globalization and global recession on our citizens, we know that U.S. President Barack Obama was correct when he said in Prague on 5 April 2009, "[N]o matter where [a nuclear attack] happens, there is no end to what the consequences might be – for our global safety, our security, our society, our economy, to our ultimate survival." Confronting this extraordinary threat, President Obama asked that we "stand together for the right of people everywhere to live free from fear in the 21st century." Our wholehearted reply is, "Yes, together we can abolish nuclear weapons." Member cities, led by Hiroshima and Nagasaki, are already adopting the term 'Obamajority' to refer to the vast majority of nations and peoples on this planet who seek liberation from the nuclear threat.

Our highest responsibility is to protect the lives and prosperity of the people we represent. To do that, we must find ways to nurture global democracy and ensure that the will of the majority of our people is properly and effectively reflected in international decision-making. Thus, Mayors for Peace strongly urges all governments, the United Nations, and all relevant international organizations, to take the following actions:

1. Adopt the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol at the 2010 NPT Review Conference and ensure that multilateral negotiations on achievement of a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020 either commence directly in the Conference on Disarmament or are launched by the 2010 UN General Assembly.
2. Require that all military forces respect the integrity of cities and prohibit the use of explosive force in populated areas. (The same is expected of non-state actors.)
“Cities Are Not Targets!”
3. Uphold human rights and work sincerely and urgently towards the elimination of hunger, poverty, discrimination, violence, and environmental destruction.
4. Abide by the Kyoto Protocol and any post-Kyoto agreements to make genuine, continuous progress towards a solution to the problem of global warming.
5. Shift funds from the military and preparations for war to activities that promote peace, hunger reduction, assistance to refugees, protection of the environment, and real solutions to the many other challenges facing the international community.
6. Create a new mechanism by which the will of cities can be regularly, systematically and directly reflected within UN decisions.

Mayors for Peace hereby declares our collective intent to work passionately in a spirit of solidarity and cooperation on the following:

- I Urging world leaders, in particular those leading nuclear-armed states, to visit the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 2010 to see firsthand the horror wrought by these terrible weapons
- II Improving communication within our expanding membership to enhance our capacity to act for the elimination of nuclear weapons
- III Building strong relationships with national governments, local governments, and NGO's to promote the Mayors for Peace mission through broad-based, global cooperation.
- IV Establishing Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses in educational institutions around the world to convey the message of the *Hibakusha* as one of humanity's most precious intellectual assets, and promoting “peace and disarmament education” at all levels of society to spread the culture of peace.

We hereby resolve to work together with all sincere parties towards the goals and objectives described above, pledging to do everything in our power to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020.

August 10, 2009
Mayors for Peace