

Expanding upon the traditional August 6th and 9th Hiroshima - Nagasaki commemorations, United for Peace and Justice and an alliance of American peace and disarmament organizations has declared August “Nuclear-Free Future Month.” The purpose of Nuclear-Free Future Month is to raise public awareness about the continuing threat posed by nuclear weapons and the environmental and proliferation risks posed by the global addiction to nuclear power through commemorations and nonviolent protests at nuclear facilities, public events, film showings, and exhibits throughout the month.

▼ Related information: www.nuclearfreefuture.org

■ Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign - Update for July 2012 [Ypres, Belgium]

The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 30 cities in 3 countries during the month of July coming to a total of 5,439 Euros.

We would like to extend our gratitude to our member cities for this generosity in supporting our efforts to realize a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/aa74208582/contributions-update-july-2012.html>

▼ List of cities that made contributions in July:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_update_July.pdf

▼ How to make contributions:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/members/contribute-to-mayors-for-peace.html>

■ Member City Activities

The City of Oyama, Japan held the Peace Exhibition 2012 commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Peace City Declaration from July 25 to 31, 2012. There were about one hundred panels on the nuclear bombing in Nagasaki and about thirty artifacts exposed to the bombing. People listened to a survivor’s testimony on July 25 as well.

The City of Hannover, Germany encouraged the domestic member cities to join “Fly the flag’ days on July 8 and 9. This initiative was proposed to remind the members about their membership and to create new and strengthen current relations among them by flying the flag of Mayors for Peace in front of their city hall. More than thirty cities in Germany participated in the first ‘Fly the flag’ activities.

The City of Manchester, the UK will be co-operating with the request of the Mayor of Montreal to hold a ‘minute of silence, moment of peace’ at midday on September 21, the UN International Day of Peace. The Lord Mayor of Manchester will lead a minute’s silence to remember all those affected by war and to call for more peaceful solutions to global crises. This will be followed by a concert held by the group ‘Musicians Without Borders’ who assist refugees escaping from torture. The event will open the Manchester Peace Festival and also serve as part of the opening program to launch the Manchester Food and Drink Festival. Mayors for Peace members from across the UK and Ireland will be in attendance at the event.

Please visit the “Member City Activities” page on our website to get ideas to implement in your city.

The URL of this page has been changed.

▼ To see the “Member City Activities” webpage, click the link below:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/index.html>.

<<Please Send Information on Your City’s Peace Activities >>

Please help us tell others about what you are doing!

We can create a link to your city’s website or the website of your peace event.

We need comprehensive information including the date, venue, organizers and description of the event.

We will be glad to help you advertise.

▼ Please send the name/title of the activity along with the link to: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ New poster exhibit commemorates 5,000-city milestone [French version ready]

To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone, please hold a new poster exhibit in your municipality sometime in August, around September 21, the UN International Day of Peace, or Peace Memorial Day of your municipality in 2012. By holding these exhibits in as many cities as possible, we hope to directly inform millions of citizens regarding the impact of nuclear war, including the fact that even a limited war would cause catastrophic climate change resulting in global famine, and the role city leaders strive to play. Please do hold an exhibition and bring this problem to the attention of people in your city.

And while you're at it, please set up petition booths during the exhibition to collect signatures calling for an immediate start to negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

The posters are now available in French as well as English, German, Russian and Japanese. You can download from the Mayors for Peace website. We are also preparing Arabic, Spanish and Catalan versions. For detailed information, please refer to the instructions for downloading the posters in "The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki -The 5,000-Member Milestone Exhibition,-" a document forwarded to our member cities.

>>Posters: A2 size (approximately 24 by 36 inches); 19 posters.

>>This poster exhibit was created based on a mandate from the 8th Executive Conference held in Granollers, Spain last November and Japanese member cities' Conference in January.

The first poster exhibitions were held in Vienna International Center and Vienna City Hall during the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference to lead those taking place in all the member cities. Please be sure your city joins this movement.

▼ Related Information:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/poster/index.html>

■ Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention

The next step in abolishing all nuclear weapons by 2020 is to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention.

A nuclear weapons convention will prohibit the acquisition, development, possession, deployment and use of nuclear weapons and all related activities.

At our Executive Conference in Granollers, Spain in November 2011, we agreed to promote a global grassroots petition drive through which all member cities can call for an immediate start to negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

On behalf of Mayors for Peace, President Kazumi Matsui handed a certificate representing 478,303 signatures collected by April 30 to Mr. Peter Woolcott, chairman of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 NPT Review Conference in May 2012 in Vienna, Austria.

We will continue collecting signatures until 2015 and present them to the UN at appropriate times.

Please promote this petition drive in your city. For example, the City of Hiroshima has set up petition booths in the lobbies of City Hall and other municipal offices since April 2, and we have been collecting signatures at the venues of events organized by the city. Please let us know how your city is working on this petition drive so we can tell others. Let's gather millions of signatures and make our voices heard. (The petition is available for printing or online at the links below.)

▼ Petition form (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/petitionform_en.pdf.

▼ Online petition:

<https://www.ssl-hiroins.city.hiroshima.jp/pcf/en/form.htm>.

■ Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,312 cities in 153 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, as of August 1, the number of member cities increased by 16 to 5,312.

The City of Bogotá, Republic of Colombia became our 109th capital member city.

As a result of recruitment letters from 4 Mayors for Peace in the Netherlands, 4 cities from the Netherlands joined.

As a result of the recruitment drive on the US Conference of Mayors, 2 cities from the United States joined.

We welcome further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please invite your fellow mayors to join.

▼ Related information (PDF):

