

the Letter of Protest to the government of the US and the US Embassy in Japan to protest against the test on December 7.

▼ Related information:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/statement/protest/121207_en.pdf

■ Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki request President Obama to visit the A-Bombed cities

Mayor Kazumi Matsui of the City of Hiroshima and Mayor Tomihisa Taue of the City of Nagasaki met the US ambassador to Japan, Mr. John Roos at the US Embassy in Tokyo on November 14 and requested the re-elected US President Obama to visit the A-Bombed cities.

Mayor Matsui read out the Letter of Request in English saying that he would like to ask the President to listen to the survivors' testimonies, witness the actual damage wrought by the atomic bombings and release a message from the A-Bombed cities expressing his firm determination to realize the world without nuclear weapons.

The meeting was not disclosed but Ambassador Roos reportedly said that he understands the request and will make sure to convey it to the President. The mayors received a positive response regarding the President's visit during his second term.

■ Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki visited Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the government's withholding to sign on the joint statement submitted by 34 countries

On October 22, the joint statement by 34 nations calling on all states to intensify their efforts to outlaw nuclear weapons and achieve a world free of nuclear weapons was submitted at the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. As the Japanese government didn't join this initiative, Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima and Mayor Taue of Nagasaki separately visited the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and handed in the Letter of Request.

Mayor Matsui asked for the government's view on this decision since the statement shares the Hiroshima's appeal for abolishing nuclear weapons, while Mayor Taue urged the government to take the lead in the realization of a 'World Without Nuclear Weapons' in cooperation with the UN and the countries with the same goal.

According to the reply from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs returned on November 20, Japanese government shares their strong concern about the inhumane nuclear weapons but there is what doesn't accord with the Japan's security policies contained in the statement, by which the government decided not to join it.

■ Mayors for Peace delivers 1,000 ICAN Hiroshima Youth Peace Cranes to President Dilma Rousseff of Brazil

On November 21, 2012, during a meeting at the Brazilian Presidential Palace in Brasilia, 1,000 Hiroshima Peace Cranes and [a letter of the ICAN Hiroshima Youth Committee](#) were delivered to President Dilma Rousseff. The 1,000 Hiroshima Peace Cranes delivery in Brazil is part of a global [Paper Crane project](#) of the International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear weapons (ICAN). All the heads of state receive the 1,000 Peace Cranes with a letter of the Hiroshima Youth mobilizing support for the Nuclear Weapons Convention.

The Hiroshima message was delivered by Ambassador Sergio Duarte, former UN High Representative on Disarmament Affairs, and Pol Heanna DHuyvetter, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace. They were received by Ambassador Guilherme Patriota, Special Adviser of President Dilma.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/9309dd7408455c6d3a68e478a0c039d6/mayors-for-peace-deliver-s-1000-hiro.html>

■ All Mayors of AMPLA join during General Assembly

All the 16 members of the [Association Of Municipalities of the Planalto](#) (AMPLA) were officially registered on December 1, 2012 as new members of Mayors for Peace. The Planalto is a region in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul, bringing total membership in Brazil up to 95.

During the AMPLA General Assembly of October 31 all Mayors agreed to join Mayors for Peace and the 16 forms were completed and forwarded to Hiroshima. The General Assembly of the Mayors of the Planalto approved a resolution in favor of peace and aim to mobilize entities and civil society organizations to draw attention to the world peace and build strategies to be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the campaign, and make significant contributions. The news was also covered in the regional press.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/a0e0f70d3d032b0d8cf24a569b99a41f/all-mayors-of-ampla-join-during-gene.html>

■ Association of Municipalities of Panama signs agreement of co-operation

On November 9, the Association of Municipalities of Panama (AMUPA) and Mayors for Peace entered an agreement of co-operation. In [the agreement](#) AMUPA and Mayors for Peace 'affirm their determination to work together to free the cities from the scourge of war.' In the agreement AMUPA declares its full support for the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons by 2020. AMUPA calls all 75 Mayors from Panama to formally join the movement of Mayors for Peace.

The message of Mayors for Peace received special resonance during the meeting as Panama suffered US bombings in December 1989. Heavy US bombings resulted in thousands of civilian casualties, with different sources mentioning between 250 up to 3,500 civilian casualties (see [US invasion of Panama](#)). Also thousands were displaced. Panama is actually one of the few countries in Latin America which ever experienced a foreign military intervention with cities being targeted with heavy bombardments.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/e324b1ba88cca4996661442eafbf1936/associations-of-municipalities-of-pa.html>

■ Peace through dialogue in Colombia

On December 4, 2012, Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace, sent a message of support to Mr. Gustavo Petro, the Mayor of Bogota. Last September Mr. Gustavo Petro launched a new network of Mayors and Governors for Peace in Colombia in order to involve local governments in the peace process through dialogue to put an end to the internal armed conflict which has raged in Colombia for decades. Mayors for Peace has been invited to the next meeting of Mayors and Governors for Peace planned for next January 2013 in the City of Santa Marta. In his message ([click for original](#)) Mr. Kazumi Matsui, the Mayor of Hiroshima, writes that Mayors for Peace welcomes the decision of the Colombian government to continue a peace process through dialogue with the insurgents of FARC. We express our support for dialogue and encourage the parties to bring this process to a successful conclusion by the signing of peace agreements to end the armed conflict in Colombia.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/ccfd2949ce36d3d189cd4772c398c9ef/peace-through-dialogue-in-colombia.html>

■ Former Hiroshima Mayor receives German Peace Award for engaging Mayors for Peace

The U.N. Association of Germany will award this year's Otto Hahn Peace Medal In Gold to former Hiroshima Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba for his contributions to global peace. Akiba (70) was noted for his continued calls for the abolition of

nuclear weapons and promotion of peace while he was a mayor that "broke new ground by undertaking his work on nuclear disarmament on a local level," said the UN Association of Germany. The branch said Akiba made outstanding efforts toward nuclear disarmament as mayor of Hiroshima and president of Mayors for Peace.

The Otto Hahn Peace Medal in Gold is named after the German nuclear chemist and 1944 Nobel Laureate [Otto Hahn](#), an honorary citizen of Berlin. The medal is in memory of his worldwide involvement in the politics of peace and humanitarian causes, in particular since the dropping of the atomic bombs on [Hiroshima](#) and [Nagasaki](#) in August 1945 by the US. The award ceremony will be held in Berlin on April 16, 2013.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/505f84cc13e1139377ae6650cfc503ce/former-hiroshima-mayor-awarded-germa.html>

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

The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 12 cities in 6 countries during the month of November coming to a total of 3,199.66 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/63d3c58df346ddf089e6a51de9f50a7f/contribution-update-November.html>

▼ List of cities that made contributions in November:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Home/November_2012.pdf

▼ How to make contributions:

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

■ Member City Activities

The City of Settsu, Japan has been designating the months of July and August as 'Peace Months' when the city holds various events such as the theater festival, screening, panel exhibition and more to offer opportunities for citizens to further realize the preciousness of peace as well as the miseries of war. A petition drive appealing for the peaceful world without nuclear weapons was also conducted at the sites and a lot of petitions were collected. Furthermore, the visitors were able to fold paper cranes in pray for peace. Such paper cranes have been sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki every year. At the City Hall and other public facilities, people have a minute of silence on August 6 and 9, A-Bomb Memorial Days in Japan.

Please visit the "Member City Activities" page on our website for ideas you can 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

■ Poster exhibit commemorates 5,000-city milestone

To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone, please hold a poster exhibit in your municipality sometime around the

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 available in English, French, German, Russian and Japanese. You can download them 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. More than 200 cities have already held or expressed their plan to hold this exhibition. 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>.

■ Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month

President Kazumi Matsui of Mayors for Peace welcomed the visitors as follows in November and asked them to support for the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate with the membership expansion.

- November 7 * Mr. Muhammad Yunus Nawandish, Mayor of Kabul, Afghanistan
- * Mr. Shin Gak-su, Ambassador Designate of the Republic of Korea
- November 9 * Mr. Valery Vasilkov, Mayor of Volgograd, Russia
- * Legislators from Iraq

