

Mayors for Peace News Flash (August 2013) No.44

Dear member cities and supporters of Mayors for Peace,

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Please find below recent news related to our activities.

If your city has any news it wishes to share with others, please feel free to contact us!

Mayors for Peace member cities as of August 1, 2013

5,712 cities in 157 countries/regions with 48 new members

<<Table of Contents >>

- The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace successfully held
- Peace Declarations by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- Protest against a new type of nuclear test conducted by the US
- Hiroshima Day and Nagasaki Day commemorations around the world
- New poster exhibit commemorates 5,000-city milestone
- Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention
- Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign - Update for June and July 2013
- Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month
- Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,712 cities in 157 countries/regions

■The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace successfully held

The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace was successfully held in Hiroshima from August 3 to 6, with more than 300 participants in total from 157 cities and municipalities in 18 countries, as well as governments and NGO representatives under the Keynote Theme of ‘Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons – Conveying the “Spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki” to the World –’.

At the General Conference, the following agenda items have been discussed and approved, including “Election of Executive Officials”, “Revision to the Covenant”, “Measures for strengthening Mayors for Peace’s management system” and “Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017)”, and the Hiroshima Appeal was adopted. You can download the document adopted at the General Conference from the link below.

▼ Outline of the 8th General Conference:

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

▼ Agenda 1 Election of Executive Officials:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/Agenda1_Election_of_Executive_Officials.pdf

▼ Agenda2-1: Revision to the Covenant of Mayors for Peace (Japanese version)

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/Agenda2-1_Revision_to_the_Covenant_of_Mayors_for_Peace_Japanese_ver.pdf

▼ Agenda2-2: Revision to the Covenant of Mayors for Peace (Japanese and English versions)

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/Agenda2-2_Revision_to_the_Covenant_of_Mayors_for_Peace.pdf

→Reference: Covenant of the Mayors for Peace

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/agreement.html>

▼ Agenda3: Measures for strengthening Mayors for Peace’s management system

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/Agenda3_Measures_for_strengthening_Mayors_for_Peaces_management_system.pdf

▼ Agenda4: Action Plan 2013-2017

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/Agenda4_Action_Plan_2013-2017.pdf

▼ The Hiroshima Appeal:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/20130805_hiroshima_appeal.pdf

■Peace Declarations by the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

On the occasion of the 68th anniversary of the A-bombings, the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki announced the 2013 Peace Declaration on August 6 and 9 respectively. In the Hiroshima Peace Declaration it is mentioned, “the city of Hiroshima and the more than 5,700 cities that comprise Mayors for Peace, in collaboration with the UN and like-minded NGOs, seek to abolish nuclear weapons by 2020 and throw our full weight behind the early achievement of a nuclear weapons convention”. The full text of the declarations is available from the links below.

▼Hiroshima Peace Declaration:

<http://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/www/contents/0000000000000/1317948556078/index.html>

▼Nagasaki Peace Declaration:

<http://www1.city.nagasaki.nagasaki.jp/peace/english/appeal/archives.html>

■Protest against a new type of nuclear test conducted by the US

It was announced that the United States conducted another test of the Z-Machine involving plutonium between April and June this year. On August 20, Mayors for Peace sent out the Letter of Protest to the government of the US to protest against the test.

▼Text of Letter of Protest:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/statement/protest/130820_en.pdf

■Hiroshima Day and Nagasaki Day commemorations around the world

On the occasion of Hiroshima Day on August 6 and Nagasaki Day on August 9, a lot of cities/municipalities and peace organizations around the world observed commemoration peace events. Here are the examples of such events :
At the Hiroshima Day in Vienna, Austria, the annual manifestation and a lantern march were held. In Germany, Hiroshima Day Ceremony was held at the Peace Bell in Berlin and an action including a fast that ends on Nagasaki Day in Buechel followed by an action culminate in a 24-hour music blockade on August 11 and 12. Several Greek NGOs and municipalities held a series of events starting from press conference on August 6 to the arrival of “Peace Boat” on August 18. In Haiti, Dr. Franck Simon, Representative of Haiti Mayors for Peace, invited the Mayors for Peace of the Republic of Haiti and all the friends of Peace, to observe a minute of silence. In Imphal, India, the chairperson of the municipal council attended, peace declarations recited and DVDs on the A-bombings screened at the annual commemoration. The City of Hiroshima held an annual meeting for the Nagasaki A-bomb victims on August 9. In Sheffield, UK, the Lord Mayor signed the Mayors for Peace declaration at the annual commemoration on August 6. In Orlando, Florida, US, the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration –Abolition 2020 Ceremony was held with presentations by several peace organizations and the Mayors for Peace A-bombings poster exhibit. We deeply appreciate the commemorations for the A-bomb victims around the world.

We believe many other cities and municipalities held your own peace events, not only Hiroshima/Nagasaki Days but also local memorial for war victims in your area and other occasions. Please inform us about your city’s peace events.

<<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.

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. We have heard from more than 250 cities around the world, such as Vienna, Austria; London, UK; Volgograd, Russia; Kabul, Afghanistan, that they held the poster exhibition

responding to our request. Please do hold an exhibition and bring this issue to the attention of people in your city.

The posters are available in Spanish, Catalan, English, French, Dutch, German, Russian and Japanese. You can download them from the Mayors for Peace website. We are also preparing an Arabic version. 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. We would appreciate it if you could let us know when you hold the poster exhibition and submit the report after the exhibition to the Secretariat. The report format is provided at the Mayors for Peace website below.

>>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 in November 2011 and Japanese Member Cities' Conference in January 2012. Promotion of this poster exhibit in member cities is also included in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017) adopted at the 8th General Conference.

▼ 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 and the first Japanese Member City Meeting in Nagasaki in January 2012, 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.

Thanks to a lot of supporters across the world, we received 774,431 signatures as of August 1, 2013.

Promotion of this petition drive is also included in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017) adopted at the 8th General Conference.

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/01_monthly_updating/11_petitionform_en.pdf.

▼ Online petition:

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

■ Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign - Update for June and July 2013 [Ypres, Belgium]

In June the 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 3 countries, in total 44 cities made donations!! In total, 15,148.41 euro was contributed to the campaign. During July, we experienced yet another increase in the number of donations and in the total amount raised. In total we received 53 donations, spanning four different countries and two individual donations. The donations range from 100 euro to 5,000 euro. All in all the amount donated reached 16,551.55 euro. Germany contributed the most, donating nearly 47 percent of the entire amount.

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

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

For June:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/3cc3d13ba73eb0e4f4d79dc1b8a6f68a/contributions-june.html>

For July:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/5861721469b445186895860633104b0d/contributions-july.html>

▼ List of cities that made contributions

In June:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/June_2013.pdf

In July:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_update_July_2013.pdf

▼ How to make contributions:

■Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month

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

July 5 Mr. Ssu-Tsun Shen, Representative, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan

■ Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,712 cities in 157 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on August 1, we added 48 new member cities, bringing total membership to 5, 712. As a result of the recruitment drive by our campaigner at Teheran Peace Museum, 11 cities from Iran joined.

Thanks to the cooperation of the Embassy of El Salvador in Japan, San Salvador joined and now we have 114 capital cities as our members.

By the recruitment letter to all non-member cities/municipalities in Japan, 30 cities from the country joined.

Two new members made the number of member city reach 400 in Germany and a new member made the number of member city 100 in Brasil, followed the 100 membership marked in Canada in July.

We also welcomed new member cities from Austria, France and Paraguay.

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):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2013/newmembers1308_en.pdf

If you have any comments, questions, or would like to unsubscribe or change your contact information, please contact us at:

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