

## Mayors for Peace News Flash (December 2013) No.48

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 December 1, 2013

**5,831 cities in 158 countries/regions with 28 new members**

\*\*\*\*\*

### <<Table of Contents >>

\*\*\*\*\*

- Secretary General of Mayors for Peace visited Thailand and Australia
- Mayors for Peace Poster exhibition held in conjunction with the Statutory Meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- Spanish Mayors declare "Cities are not targets!"
- New Red Cross and Red Crescent resolution on nuclear weapons adopted unanimously
- Member City Activities (Ichihara (Japan))
- Mayors for Peace A-bomb posters exhibition
- Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention
- Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign - Update for November 2013
- Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month
- Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,831 cities in 158 countries/regions
- Mayors for Peace Secretariat will be closed for 9 days from December 28 to January 5 for the new year holidays

\*\*\*\*\*

### ■Secretary General of Mayors for Peace visited Thailand and Australia

Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace visited the cities of Bangkok and Chiang Mai in Thailand and Fremantle and Sydney in Australia to exchange opinions on appointing lead cities and expanding the activities of Mayors for Peace in the regions. In Sydney, he observed the Statutory Meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. He also met A-bomb survivors who are sharing their testimonies overseas, scholars of some peace study centers of universities and representatives of peace NGOs and discussed future cooperation with them. He also visited Japanese embassies and consulates in each country to ask for their assistance in the activities of Mayors for Peace. At a meeting with Deputy Governor of Bangkok, we received JPY10,000 from Bangkok as a membership fee in advance as well as a donation prior to the launch of the membership fee system in 2015.

Details will be available on the Mayors for Peace website soon.

### ■Mayors for Peace Poster exhibition held in conjunction with the Statutory Meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

[Sydney, Australia November 11 -15]

Mayors for Peace set up an exhibition booth for the Mayors for Peace A-bomb Poster Exhibition at Humanitarian Village at the venue of the Statutory Meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in Sydney Convention Center. During the exhibit, around 500 visitors including the participants of the meetings, the Red Cross and Red Crescent staff, and the general public visited the booth. Our staff were encouraged by how many people shared our common goal. Exhibition leaflets and materials of Mayors for Peace were also handed to visitors. An introduction in how to make paper cranes was also shown to the visitors as a means of exchange. A petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention was also conducted at the exhibition booth and 204 signatures were collected. Also, the mayor of Sadic, Moldova, who was a participant of the Red Cross and Red Crescent meetings, visited the booth and signed the registration form of Mayor for Peace then and there.

---

## ■Spanish Mayors declare “Cities are not targets!”

[Donostia, Spain, 21 November 2013]

---

Capping off the day-long “Cities Destroyed by War Meeting”, the Mayors of the Spanish cities Donostia, Guernica, and Granollers signed a declaration on the theme “Cities Are Not Targets!” Donostia was burned to the ground two hundred years ago by the English and Portuguese forces who expelled the French occupiers; Guernica was mercilessly bombed by Hitler’s Luftwaffe in 1937 (as immortalized by Picasso); and Granollers was bombed by Mussolini’s Aviazione Legionaria a year later. Plans are in the works to circulate the declaration more widely in Spain and Europe.

The declaration concludes: “On the occasion of this event, the mayors of the participating cities pledge to strive, in close cooperation with the citizens and the society as a whole, for the achievement of a more peaceful world. A world which appreciates that cities are the heart of our civilization, and thus that, ‘Cities Are Not Targets!’”

▼Link to full story (2020 Vision Campaign website)

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/88fb5c78315db2b64cf107b2fccd4ddb/spanish-mayors-declare-cities-are.html>

---

## ■New Red Cross and Red Crescent resolution on nuclear weapons adopted unanimously

---

A very encouraging resolution called “Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons: Four-year action plan” was unanimously adopted at the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement held in Sydney, Australia on November 17-18, 2013. This resolution includes actions in national, regional and international levels of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to undertake the action plan’s activities to raise awareness of the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and the need for concrete action leading to a prohibition on the use of nuclear weapons and their elimination.

There was another set of posters on the A-bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki prepared by the ICRC in the venue in Sydney and they are showing strong commitment toward the elimination of nuclear weapons. Mayors for Peace will further strengthen collaboration with the ICRC for our shared goal.

▼Full text of the resolution (the ICRC website)

<http://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/red-cross-crescent-movement/council-delegates-2013/cod13-res-nw-dr1-en-g.pdf>

---

## ■Member City Activities

---

\* Ichihara, Japan

Projects for Peace of the City of Ichihara April 2013-March 2014

The City of Ichihara held an event on July 15 including such programs as a film showing of “Junod”, which describes the life of Dr. Marcel Junod, a Swiss medical doctor dispatched to battle fields from the ICRC during the second world war, a concert for peace by elementary school children and tasting of dumpling soup called “suito”, which was commonly eaten in Japan during the second world war.

Winners of a peace motto contest among the junior high school students and the Nuclear Free Peace City Declaration of the city are also shown on the website of the City of Ichihara.

▼The city of Ichihara website (in Japanese)

<http://www.city.ichihara.chiba.jp/010kikaku/jinken/dannjyo/heiwa.html>

Please visit the “Member City Activities” page on our website for ideas you can implement in your city.

▼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](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

---

### ■ Mayors for Peace A-bomb posters exhibition

---

To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone of the Mayors for Peace membership, we have called for all member cities to hold a poster exhibit, premiered in Vienna (Austria) in May 2012. Based on the decisions at the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in August 2013, we have updated a part of the Mayors for Peace A-bomb posters (English version). We would be most grateful if you could continue to support the exhibitions using the new posters and 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 London, UK; Volgograd, Russia and Kabul, Afghanistan, that they held the poster exhibition responding to our request.

In November, aside from the exhibition at the Red Cross Red Crescent Statutory meetings in Sydney, we received a report of the exhibitions held on November 24 from Miura (Japan).

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

The original posters are also available in Spanish, Catalan, French, Dutch, German, and Russian. You can download them from the Mayors for Peace website. We are also preparing an Arabic version.

We would appreciate it if you could let us know when you will 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.

▼ Related Information and download the posters at:

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

Thanks to a lot of supporters across the world, we received 860,683 signatures as of December 1, 2013.

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](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 November 2013 [Ypres, Belgium]

---

During November, the 2020 Vision Campaign received 16 donations, spanning eight countries, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Many more will come later this year. All in all, the amount donated reached 5,240.82 Euro.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the people behind every single donation made, for their 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/28d9e37632dd43d1a5afa48277c440f5/contributions-november-2013.html>

