

Thanks to the translation by the cities of Malakoff (France) and Granollers (Spain), Vice President cities of Mayors for Peace, the French and the Spanish versions of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan 2013-2017 are now available on our website. This will be separately distributed to member cities in French and Spanish speaking countries.

▼ French version of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan 2013-2017:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/FR_Action_Plan2013_2017.pdf

▼ Spanish version of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan 2013-2017:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/meeting/8th/ES_Action_Plan2013-2017.pdf

■ New Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses in three universities/colleges

As mentioned in the Action Plan 2013-2017 adopted at the 8th General Conference, Mayors for Peace has been promoting the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses in universities/colleges around the world, which are designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and A-bomb survivors' messages to younger generations.

Over the last two months, the courses at Community College of Philadelphia (U.S.A), Kyoto University of Art and Design (Japan) and Tohoku University of Art and Design (Japan) have been newly recognized as Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses. Now, Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses are offered in 63 universities/colleges. If your city has a university/college where there is any course dealing with the issue of A-bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, or wishing to establish such courses in universities/colleges in your area, please contact us.

▼ For more details, please visit Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course website at:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/hnpc/en/hnpc_top.htm

■ Agreement with UN-Habitat inviting African mayors to be Associate Partners in the World Urban Campaign

On December 20, 2013, the representative of Mayors for Peace to the African Union, Ambassador Mussie Hailu shared news that he signed an agreement in Nairobi on July 25 with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) inviting African mayors to be Associate Partners of the World Urban Campaign and promote the campaign through the network of Mayors for Peace in Africa. The World Urban Campaign is a platform for public, private and civil society actors to elevate policies, share practical tools and raise awareness for sustainable urbanization. Dr. Clos, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat stressed the role of Mayors for Peace and said engagement of each city would be important in launching campaigns under the slogan "I'm a City Changer".

▼ More details are available at the UN-Habitat website:

<http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=12369&catid=5&typeid=6>

■ Condolence message on the passing of the Honorable Nelson Mandela and responses from member cities

On December 17, 2013, Mayors for Peace issued a condolence message on the passing of the Honorable Nelson Mandela, former president of the Republic of South Africa on December 5. We have received some responses from member cities. The following are some examples:

In the City of Sydney, Council stood for a minute's silence to honor Mr. Mandela's life and the legacy of justice, compassion, equality and forgiveness he leaves behind on the night of December 9. Flags at Sydney Town Hall were lowered all week to half-mast until after his funeral in South Africa. Condolence books were available in the foyer of both Sydney Town Hall and Town Hall House for anyone wanting to honor this hero. The books have now been delivered to the South African consulate.

Mayor Dieter Holtz of Sassnitz, Germany, publicized the message in German newspaper "Ostsee-Zeitung".

The Secretariat also received a message from Mayor Karen Williams of Redland City Council, Australia, saying, "The world has bid a sad farewell to South African icon Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela who will be sorely missed by not just South Africans but in countries around the world. He was a great South African anti-apartheid revolutionary, politician, and philanthropist who was the inspirational first black President of South Africa. He will be remembered as

a son, husband and father of 5 children and, in many ways, a nation.

Mandela once said "to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others". How humble and extraordinary was this man to make such a difference when there was so much against him. The world has lost a once-in-a-generation leader."

Together with our member cities, Mayors for Peace once again expresses our condolences and determines to make further efforts to realize his ideal of a world without war or conflict.

▼ Full text of the message from Mayors for Peace

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/statement/request/131217_en/index.html

■ Please support the 36th annual "Around the World in 90 Days" Bike for Peace tour

Preparations are taking place for the 36th annual 'Around the World in 90 Days' tour by the Norwegian NGO, 'Bike for Peace', which Mayors for Peace members are encouraged to get involved in. 'Bike for Peace' seeks to raise awareness of many peace issues on its global cycle rides, and this year it is focusing on the need for nuclear weapons disarmament. Inspired by its founder Tore Naerland, 'Bike for Peace' has criss-crossed the globe and met many Heads of State, Foreign Ministers, Nobel Peace Laureates, key decision makers and peace groups to speak of the need for a nuclear-weapons free and more peaceful world.

This year's bike tour will begin in Manchester which is a Vice President city of Mayors for Peace, on March 15th. The UK leg will also be ridden by former Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik, Mayor Thore Vestby of Frogn (Mayors for Peace Vice President), and Mayor Ole Tom Guse of Forsand. A launch event is being planned with further events in Coventry and London. The tour will then move on to such places as Paris, Nice, Rome, New Delhi, Rangoon, Beijing, Osaka, Hiroshima, Tokyo, Jakarta, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas, Indianapolis, Washington DC, the United Nations buildings in New York, before ending in Norway on 18th June.

Mayors for Peace members on the route are encouraged to organize local events with Bike for Peace and join in their campaign to raise awareness of the need for a nuclear weapons free world.

▼ Further details of the route and of Bike for Peace:

<http://bikeforpeace.info/2014/BikeForPeaceAroundTheWorld.pdf>

■ UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs mentioned that nuclear-weapons-free declarations by thousands of the mayors needs to be encouraged

[United Nations News Centre Newsmaker Interview]

In an interview by UN News Centre Newsmaker with H.E. Ms. Angela Kane, UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on January 8, she mentioned that nuclear-weapons-free declarations by thousands of the mayors needs to be encouraged. The following is the excerpt from the interview:

"You also have thousands of cities now that the mayors have declared to be nuclear-weapons-free. I think that that is something that really needs to be encouraged. Because what we're lacking is civil society involvement on a large scale. We have very dedicated and knowledgeable civil society movements, but it isn't the mass movement that I remember in the late 1970s, 1980s, when you had the special session of the General Assembly on disarmament. I think we need more of that and I wish there would be more reporting on this. So I'm very happy when people learn about it and they say, well, what can we do to join this, what can we do to advance nuclear disarmament, what can we do to make our world more safe."

▼ Full story of the interview (UN website):

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/newsmakers.asp?NewsID=100>

■ Member City Activities

* Nagano, Japan

Information for the 2014 Nagano Citizen's Peace Day

Nagano Citizen's Peace Day will be held from February 8 to 16, 2014 to promote the significance of peace and sports marking the declaration of Nagano City as a city of peace as well as the Peace and Sports Day commemorating the 1998 Nagano Olympics. A concert for peace, exhibition of paper crane art objects, the Mayors for Peace petition drive calling for an immediate start of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention are included in the program. Some pictures from the Nagano Citizen's Peace Day 2013 are also available on the city of Nagano website.

▼ The city of Nagano website (in Japanese)

<http://www.city.nagano.nagano.jp/soshiki/shomu/81676.html>

* Itabashi, Japan

Commemoration Projects for the Itabashi Peace City Declaration

On January 1, 1985, Itabashi City, Tokyo, declared itself to be a city of peace. Since then, in accordance with the peace city declaration, Itabashi has implemented various peace projects and has continued conveying the significance of peace and tragedy of wars. Information of these projects are available on the website of Itabashi City, including full text of the peace city declaration, reports from peace tours to Hiroshima and Nagasaki by junior high school students, exhibitions on peace, peace drawings and A-bombings, and annual meeting for peace as well as file footage of the "Air raids in Itabashi- to convey the memory of That Day -". Itabashi is a member of both Mayors for Peace and National Council of Japan Nuclear Free Local Authorities.

▼ Itabashi City website (in Japanese)

http://www.city.itabashi.tokyo.jp/c_kurashi/002/002066.html

* Fujisawa, Japan

Record of desire and efforts for peace by the City of Fujisawa

Based on the purport of "the City of Fujisawa Declaration for Peace and the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" and the Fujisawa city ordinance on the basis for promoting peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons, the City of Fujisawa has been implementing various peace promotion projects working together with many citizens, such as a group "Executive committee to widen the circle for peace". Information and reports on the projects are available on the city's website, such as the 2012 report from the Executive committee to widen the circle for peace, Nagasaki peace study tour (August 7 to 10), dispatching parent-child reporters to Hiroshima (August 5 to 7), debrief session of peace study, A-bomb survivor's testimonies, peace bus day-trip for citizens, peace exhibition and the Commemorative project for the 30th anniversary of the Declaration for Peace and the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (held on January 20, 2013). The full text of "the City of Fujisawa Declaration for Peace and the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" and the Fujisawa city ordinance on the basis for promoting peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons are also available on their website.

▼ The city of Fujisawa website (in Japanese)

<http://www.city.fujisawa.kanagawa.jp/kyousei/page100077.shtml>

* Linz, Austria

2013 Declaration of Peace by the City of Linz

The 2013 Declaration of Peace by the City of Linz was unanimously approved by the City Council in the session on 21st November 2013.

▼ 2013 Declaration of Peace by the City of Linz (English)

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2013/131121_Peace_Declaration_of_the_City_of_Linz.pdf.

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

■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. 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. The translation for updated versions are ongoing. You can download the original posters from the Mayors for Peace website.

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 8th General Conference.

Thanks to a lot of supporters across the world, we received 875,712 signatures as of January 1, 2014.

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 December 2013 [Ypres, Belgium]**

During December, the 2020 Vision Campaign received 23 donations, spanning ten countries, Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

All in all, the amount donated reached 12,980 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/238f6ca36a3860f36b8ebf08df0723d0/contributions-december-2013.html>

▼ List of cities that made contributions in December:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Home/December_2013.pdf

▼ How to make contributions:

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

■ Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,860 cities in 158 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on January 1, we added 29 new member cities, bringing total membership to 5,860. Thanks to our campaigner at Teheran Peace Museum, 17 cities from Iran joined in addition to the 52 cities which joined in the previous six months. Five municipalities joined in Japan and the number of member cities reached 1,397. As a result, 80.2 percent of Japanese cities/municipalities are now members of Mayors for Peace.

We also welcomed two cities each from El Salvador and Mexico, and a city each from Canada, Ethiopia and Italy. We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please invite mayors who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace.

▼ Related information (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2014/newmembers1401_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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