

## Mayors for Peace News Flash (June 2014) No.54

Dear member cities and supporters of Mayors for Peace,

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Below are recent news related to our activities.

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

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Mayors for Peace member cities as of June 1, 2014

**6,084 cities in 158 countries/regions with 49 new members**

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### ■2014 U.S. Conference of Mayors Adopts Bold New Resolution Calling for Constructive Good Faith U.S. Participation in International Nuclear Disarmament Forums

[June 13]

The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM), the non-partisan association of America's big cities, on June 23, 2014 unanimously adopted a sweeping new resolution Calling for Constructive Good Faith U.S. Participation in International Nuclear Disarmament Forums at its 82nd annual meeting in Dallas, Texas.

The resolution was sponsored by Mayor Donald Plusquellic of Akron, Ohio, past President of the USCM and a Vice-President of Mayors for Peace, and 26 co-sponsors from cities in Virginia, North Carolina, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Florida, Massachusetts, Arkansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Maine, California, Minnesota, and New Mexico.

Please read the full article that summarizes the significant points of the resolution.

▼The full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/b3cfc820f79b77768bf513a364aabce6/us-conference-of-mayors-adopts-bol.html>

▼Read the full text of the resolution with the complete list of sponsors at:

<http://wslfweb.org/docs/MSPUSCMsponsorsfinal.pdf>

### ■2014 Message for International Day of Peace, 100 Day Countdown

[June 13]

On June 13, the President of Mayors for Peace issued a message for the International Day of Peace, 100 Day Countdown.

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly, by unanimous vote, adopted a resolution establishing the International Day of Peace (IDP) which stated in part, "...to devote a specific time to concentrate the efforts of the United Nations and its Member States, as well as the whole of mankind, to promote the ideals of peace and to giving positive evidence of their commitment to peace in all viable ways." In 2001, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution which established September 21 as a fixed IDP date and annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. The UN invites all nations and people to honor a cessation of hostilities during IDP, and to otherwise commemorate the International Day of Peace through education and public awareness on issues related to peace and wellbeing for all.

Since then, there have been many events around the world commemorating the International Day of Peace. Mayors for Peace has been a long-time supporter of IDP. It is included in our Action Plan adopted last year that all member cities will also be encouraged to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21. The theme of 2014 International Day of Peace is the "Right of Peoples to Peace". In this context, we humbly ask that you pray for the arrival of a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, and hold an event to mark the International Day of Peace 2014.

▼ Full text of the message (PDF, Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2014/Sep21\\_peaceday/140613\\_IDP100day\\_message\\_E.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2014/Sep21_peaceday/140613_IDP100day_message_E.pdf)

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY'S EVENT TO MARK IDP2014 >>

We would like to introduce your city's event and activities to commemorate the International Day of Peace 2014 on the September or October issue of the Mayors for Peace News Flash. If you intend to organize such an event, we would be pleased if you could inform our secretariat. Thank you for your kind cooperation.

▼ Please mail us with the outline of the activity at: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

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**■ 2014 General Meeting of the 2020 Vision Campaign Association held**

[Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, June 8]  
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On Sunday, June 8, the Annual General Meeting of the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign Association was held at the City Hall of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Councillor Mark Hackett of Manchester City Council, UK, chaired the meeting, which was also attended by the Deputy Mayor of Sarajevo, Ranko Kovich, and representatives of member cities of the Campaign Association. The meeting resolved the 2020 Vision Campaign's plans for 2014 and 2015, its budget/financial report, its 2014 Progress Report and reappointment of its Vice President and Associate Members.

The meeting took place around the 'Sarajevo Peace Event' where hundreds of workshops were organised by NGOs, academic institutions and faith organisations, close to the centenary of the First World War. The Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign held two workshops on the subject of 'Cities are Not Targets!' and 'Civil Society and Elected Representative working together'. A useful meeting with Bosnian Mayors was also held. The Mayor of Ypres, Chairman of the 2020 Vision Campaign, Jan Durnez spoke at the official closing ceremony of the 'Peace Event' along with a number of Nobel Peace Laureates. The 'Peace Event' also included a Youth Camp, a music festival and a film festival.

▼ Full text of the article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/a0ccf57feeb446bb8e2467a46a4e86d1/2014-general-meeting-of-the-2020-vis.html>

▼ Sarajevo Peace Event:

<http://www.peaceeventsarajevo2014.eu>  
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**■ The mayor of Wellington, New Zealand visited Hiroshima [May 21-22]**  
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On May 21, Ms. Celia Wade-Brown, Mayor of Wellington, New Zealand, visited Yasuyoshi Komizo, Secretary General of Mayors for Peace and exchanged views on the activities of Mayors for Peace in the country. She also paid respect and a floral tribute at the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims as well as visited the Peace Memorial Museum on the same day. The following day on May 22, Mayor Wade-Brown met with President Matsui (Mayor of Hiroshima) of Mayors

for Peace. President Matsui requested Mayor Wade-Brown to become a lead city of Mayors for Peace.

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### ■Mayors for Peace Newsletter No.34 issued

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The annual Mayors for Peace Newsletter No. 34 was issued featuring the news and activities from April 2013 to March 2014. It has been improved to 22 pages from 4 pages in previous issues. You can download the newsletter from the following :

▼ Mayors for Peace Newsletter No.34:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/newsletter/34.pdf>

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### ■Information on Mayors for Peace France-AFCDRP Facebook and Twitter pages

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French speaking members can follow Mayors for Peace France-AFCDRP activities on Facebook. They will find regular updates and information on French member cities' activities as well as Mayors for Peace's latest news in French. Please follow the page by clicking on the 'like' button!

Mayors for Peace France –AFCDRP is also on Twitter (@AFCDRP), with tweets about member cities' activities, culture of peace and nuclear disarmament related issues, it is mostly in French with some English. Feel free to follow it!

▼ Link to AFCDRP – Mayors for Peace France Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/reseauAFCDRP>

▼ Link to AFCDRP-Mayors for Peace France Twitter account:

<https://twitter.com/afcdrp>

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### ■Bike for Peace joins with Mayors for Peace for Scottish tour

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Following on from its recent global tour, the Norwegian group Bike for Peace is continuing its support for Mayors for Peace with a series of tours across the world in 2014 and 2015. Norwegian Mayors will be part of a Bike for Peace tour of Scotland, prior to the 20th Commonwealth Games taking place in Glasgow. The Bike for Peace Scottish tour will take place from July 16th - 19th and commences in Edinburgh. Lord Provosts, Provosts and Baillies (the Scottish equivalent of Lord Mayors, Mayors and Deputy Mayors) will be welcoming the Bike for Peace delegation with civic receptions in Edinburgh, Dundee, Perth, Stirling, Paisley and Glasgow - these towns and cities are all Mayors for Peace members. It is also hoped to organise a meeting with senior members of the Scottish Government and Members of the Scottish Parliament when the delegation returns to Edinburgh. The Scottish tour follows on from a successful tour earlier this year in England, that was fully supported in Manchester, Coventry and London.

▼ Bike for Peace Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/bikeforpeacenow>

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### ■Information on the Hiroshima Peace Media Center website

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The Hiroshima Peace Media Center is a great resource center for Hiroshima/Nagasaki and all nuclear matters. The center is run by the Chugoku Shimbun Newspaper based in Hiroshima. Their articles are mostly in English and in Japanese, but some French and Chinese articles are also available.

▼ Hiroshima Peace Media Center:

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?lang=en>

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

- one picture was renewed on page 16

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To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone of the Mayors for Peace membership, we called for all member cities to hold a poster exhibition, which premiered in Vienna (Austria) in May 2012.

By holding these exhibitions in as many cities as possible, we hope to directly inform millions of citizens of 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 that city leaders should 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 poster exhibitions in response to our request.

We ask your city to also please hold an exhibition and bring this issue to the attention of people in your city.

The posters are available in English, Spanish, Catalan, French, Dutch, German, Japanese and Russian. You can download the updated posters from the Mayors for Peace website. In June, we renewed one photograph on page 16. We would be most grateful if you could continue to support the exhibitions using the new posters, and hold a poster exhibition in your municipality.

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 on the Mayors for Peace website below.

>>Posters: A2 size (approximately 24 by 36 inches or 61 by 91.5 cm); 18 posters.

▼ Related Information and download link to the posters:

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

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### ■ Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention

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

A nuclear weapons convention will prohibit the development, production, testing, stockpiling 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 for 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 many supporters across the world, we have received 964,566 signatures as of June 1, 2014.

Let us gather millions of signatures and make our voices heard.

(The petition is available to print 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 (New URL due to a server transfer):

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

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### ■ Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace last month

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President Kazumi Matsui of Mayors for Peace welcomed the following visitors in May and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

May 7 - Hon. Dr. Brad Pettitt, Mayor of Fremantle

May 22 - Hon. Ms. Celia Wade-Brown, Mayor of Wellington

May 30 - Mr. Vincent Nicod, Head of Mission, the ICRC Mission in Japan

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### ■ Mayors for Peace member cities - 6,084 cities in 158 countries/regions

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Through your invaluable support, on June 1, we added 49 new member cities, bringing total membership to 6,084.

Thanks to our campaigner at Teheran Peace Museum, 39 cities from Iran joined this month and the total number of Iranian member cities has reached 240. Six cities joined from Japan, making the total number of member cities 1,454.

We also welcomed one member city each from Austria, Belarus, Germany and the Netherlands.

We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed.

Please help us invite mayors who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace.

▼ Related information (PDF):

