



a peace agreement to put an end to the Colombian armed conflict. It also recognizes that nuclear weapons, together with climate change, are the most significant challenges that humanity faces today and calls on national governments to redirect military expenditures to satisfy the urgent needs of the local governments and their citizens. The Bogota Peace Declaration concludes that Latin American cities live with common problems such as unemployment, poverty, violence, phenomena related to migration, and proliferation of weapons which need to be addressed comprehensively by national and /or local governments.

▼ Bogota Peace Declaration (PDF, Mayors for Peace website):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2015/Bogota/June2015\\_Bogota\\_Peace\\_Declaration.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2015/Bogota/June2015_Bogota_Peace_Declaration.pdf)

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**■Message for International Day of Peace, 100-Day Countdown**  
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The President of Mayors for Peace issued a message for the 100-Day Countdown to the International Day of Peace on June 13th.

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly, by unanimous vote, adopted a resolution establishing the International Day of Peace (IDP) which states that the IDP is, in part, "...[a way] 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 21st as the 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 the 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 the IDP. It is included in our Action Plan that all member cities will also be encouraged to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21st. In this context, we humbly ask that you hold an event to mark the 2015 International Day of Peace.

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

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2015/Sep21\\_peaceday/150613\\_IDP100day\\_message\\_E.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2015/Sep21_peaceday/150613_IDP100day_message_E.pdf)

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY'S IDP 2015 EVENT >>

If your city is planning to organize an event to commemorate the International Day of Peace, please send your event report to our secretariat. We will share the report on the Mayors for Peace website, etc.

▼ Please mail us with an outline of your event at:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

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**■The retirement of Mr. Donald L. Plusquellic, Mayor of Akron (Ohio, USA) and a Vice President of Mayors for Peace**  
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Mr. Donald L. Plusquellic, who served as the Mayor of Akron and a Vice President of Mayors for Peace stepped down from office on May 31st. The City of Akron, Ohio, USA, became a member of Mayors for Peace in 2004, a Vice President City in 2005 and a Lead City in 2014. Over the past several years, Mr. Plusquellic took the initiative to obtain support from his colleagues to adopt the Mayors for Peace Resolution at the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) annual assemblies. Mayors for Peace sincerely appreciates Mr. Plusquellic's longstanding and invaluable contributions to its activities.

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**■Mayors for Peace's endorsement of a position paper on the "Post-2015 Development Agenda"**  
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The UN Millennium Declaration was adopted at the United Nations' Millennium Summit in September 2000, setting

out a series of targets with a deadline of the end of 2015 that have become known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). With the deadline of the MDGs fast approaching, international discussions to formulate a new set of international development goals beyond 2015, called “the Post-2015 Development Agenda”, are underway. In July this year, the Third UN Conference on Financing for Development will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to discuss financing for the Post-2015 Development Agenda and its implementation.

The World Future Council, an NGO that aims to pass on a healthy planet and just societies to the future generations through participation in decision-making processes, and the International Peace Bureau, one of the most prestigious NGOs dedicated to peace, released a common position paper emphasizing the need for UN Member States to reduce their military spending and reallocate those resources to fund the Sustainable Development Goals as well as tackle climate change; in this way, development and disarmament can proceed hand in hand. The two organizations requested endorsements from other organizations committed to peace.

As efforts to reduce military expenditures by each country would contribute to the disarmament and reduction of nuclear arms, which correspond to the objectives of Mayors for Peace, Mayors for Peace has decided to endorse this position paper.

▼Position paper: “Peaceful and Just Societies: A Key Factor in Financing for Sustainable Development”

[http://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Disarmament/2015.05\\_Peaceful\\_and\\_Just\\_Societies\\_Key\\_Factor\\_in\\_FFD.pdf](http://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Disarmament/2015.05_Peaceful_and_Just_Societies_Key_Factor_in_FFD.pdf)

▼World Future Council website

<http://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/>

▼International Peace Bureau website

<http://www.ipb.org/web/>

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## ■“Peace News from Hiroshima”

- Contributed by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center

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The Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, closed on May 22nd. This conference, which is held every five years, failed to yield productive results, disappointing and angering A-bomb survivors. But Hiroshima, striving to realize a world without nuclear weapons or war, has not given up. As the survivors age, we must continue conveying their memories to younger generations and make ongoing efforts to inform people around the world about the consequences of nuclear warfare. One such effort is the "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Exhibition" to be held in Washington, D.C. between June 13th and August 16th. This is the first such exhibition in 20 years to take place in the capital of the North American nuclear superpower.

Please visit the following links for articles from the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.

- NPT Review Conference collapses: A-bomb survivors decry “worst possible outcome”

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45011>

- Hiroshima Asks: After the NPT Review Conference, Part 1

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45306>

- Hiroshima Asks: After the NPT Review Conference, Part 2

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45447>

- A-bomb exhibition to be held in U.S. capital for first time in 20 years

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45124>

- A-bomb survivors’ organization alters its rules to allow membership of second-generation survivors

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45186>

- City cooperates with local group to seek Memory of the World status for A-bomb manuscripts of Sadako Kurihara, others; desire to convey A-bombing experience to the world

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45311>

[Reports given on Holocaust study tour]

- Session on “Hiroshima and the Holocaust” appeals for young people to take action for peace

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=45228>

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**■Member City Activities**  
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Barcelona, Spain

The City Council of Barcelona approved a declaration in support of nuclear disarmament

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On March 23rd, a declaration in support of nuclear disarmament was approved at the plenary of the City Council of Barcelona. The City of Barcelona is a member of Mayors for Peace. The declaration was presented to the plenary on the occasion of the NPT Review Conference in April by Fundi Pau, a Barcelona-based peace NGO, which is a member of The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). All the political parties of the Council endorsed the Declaration.

▼ Declaration by the City Council of Barcelona (PDF, translated into English from Catalan)

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Barcelona/Declaration\\_En.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Barcelona/Declaration_En.pdf)

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Chamgordan, Iran

A commemoration of the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare

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A commemoration of the Day of Remembrance for All Victims of Chemical Warfare was held on Wednesday, May 9th, during which Mayor Nazmalraya of Chamgordan, member of Mayors for Peace, along with City Council deputies and members, met with chemical warfare veterans. Also on this day, the mayor, the mayor's assistant Mr. Allahyari, municipal staff and council members laid down flowers at the Martyrs' Cemetery.

▼ Photos on the Mayors for Peace website

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Chamgordan/150509chemical\\_victims.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Chamgordan/150509chemical_victims.html)

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Mülheim an der Ruhr, Germany

“Tree for Peace” - a commemorative event

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On May 8th, a ceremony was held to install a plaque that commemorates the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings and to plant a sapling of a ginkgo tree. The event was organized in response to the request by Mayors for Peace to hold events to commemorate the 70th anniversary. Ginkgo has become a symbol of peace because some ginkgo trees survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Mayor Dagmar Mühlenfeld presented the plaque and the ginkgo tree and announced that Mülheim an der Ruhr would support the petition drive by Mayors for Peace that calls for a global ban on nuclear weapons.

▼ Photos on the Mayors for Peace website

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Muelheim-Ruhr/150508Tree\\_for\\_Peace.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/memberscity/2015/Muelheim-Ruhr/150508Tree_for_Peace.html)

▼ Link to the City of Mülheim an der Ruhr website (in German)

[https://www.muelheim-ruhr.de/cms/widmung\\_des\\_hiroshima-baumes.html](https://www.muelheim-ruhr.de/cms/widmung_des_hiroshima-baumes.html)

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Oakville, Canada:

Mayor of Oakville hosted a delegation of Gensuikyo members

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On April 30th, Mayor Burton of the City of Oakville hosted members of Gensuikyo, the “Japanese Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs”, at Town Hall to mark the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Approximately 45 delegates gathered to speak with the Mayor.

▼Link to event coverage in the local newspaper, the “Oakville Beaver”

<http://www.insidehalton.com/news-story/5600979-hiroshima-survivor-calls-for-abolition-of-nuclear-weapons-during-okakville-visit/>

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Okayama, Japan

Photo exhibition about the Okayama air raid

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As a result of the Okayama air raid on June 29th, 1945, about 63% of the city was destroyed, and more than 1,700 people were killed. Okayama City is holding a photo exhibition about the air raid from June 12th through July 5th. The exhibition includes precious records and memories that show the damage from the air raid and how citizens faced various challenges and reconstruction.

▼Link to the Okayama City Museum website (in Japanese)

[http://www.city.okayama.jp/okayama-city-museum/tenji/tenji\\_201506-07\\_sensai.html](http://www.city.okayama.jp/okayama-city-museum/tenji/tenji_201506-07_sensai.html)

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Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Commemorative events for the 70th anniversary of victory over fascism and Europe Day

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On May 9th, the City of Sarajevo marked the 70th anniversary of victory over fascism and Europe Day, paying tribute by laying flowers at the memorial of Eternal Flame and organizing a ceremonial concert by the Sarajevo Philharmonic Orchestra in the City Hall. During these commemorative events, the city was reminded about and paid respects to the victims of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

▼Photos on the Mayors for Peace website

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2015/Sarajevo/150509\\_70th\\_anniversary.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2015/Sarajevo/150509_70th_anniversary.html)

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

▼To see the “Member City Activities” webpage, click on the link below:

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

<<PLEASE SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT 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 to help you advertise.

Please include comprehensive information including the date, venue, organizers and a description of the event.

We look forward to receiving information from your city.

▼Please email us at the following address with the name/title of your event and the URL for it:

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

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**■Launch of the Mayors for Peace information system**

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An online information system of Mayors for Peace will be launched in July this year, in order to facilitate information sharing among member cities. This system will enable searches for member cities’ information, renewal of records by each member as well as payment of membership fees by credit card without remittance charge. Further information on how to use this system will soon be sent to each member city by email.

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**■A request to hold commemorative events for the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings**

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This year, Hiroshima and Nagasaki will be facing the landmark 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. As we have requested through email, we are calling for all member cities to hold commemorative events in their municipality or regional group.

The events may be of any type, but we ask them be held by March 2016. You will find some examples of what types of events are possible on the webpage below.

We would appreciate notification of when you will hold an event, and the submission of an event report afterwards to the Secretariat. The report form is provided on the Mayors for Peace website. Additional information such as photos of the event and a link to a website showing details of the event are also welcome.

▼“A request regarding the holding of various measures as based in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan” (PDF):  
[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/70th\\_anniversary/various\\_measures\\_En.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/70th_anniversary/various_measures_En.pdf)

▼ Report form (Word):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/70th\\_anniversary/Report2015.doc](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/70th_anniversary/Report2015.doc)

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### ■A plea to 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, Mayors for Peace members agreed to promote a global grassroots petition drive as a way in which all member cities can call for an immediate start to negotiations of a nuclear weapons convention. Promotion of this petition drive is also included in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017) that was adopted at the 8th General Conference.

Thanks to many supporters across the world, we have received 2,065,209 signatures as of June 1, 2015.

Let us gather millions more and make our voices heard.

(The petition is available to print or to sign 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-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 welcomed the following visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

\*May 19th - Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles, UN Assistant Secretary General and Acting Head and Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

\*May 21st - H.E. Mr. Mussie Hailu, Ambassador at Large of the Republic of Burundi

\*May 21st - Mr. Tran Duc Binh, the Consul-General of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Osaka

\*May 25th - Mr. Witthaya Buranasiri, Former Minister of Public Health

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### ■Mayors for Peace member cities - 6,706 cities in 160 countries/regions

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Through your invaluable support, on June 1st, 2015, we added 31 new member cities, bringing total membership to 6,706.

Thanks to the continued efforts of the team at the Teheran Peace Museum, 21 cities from Iran joined this month and the total number of Iranian member cities reached 672.

We also welcomed ten cities from Brazil, France, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Senegal, and the USA.

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.

▼List of new members (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2015/newmembers1506\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2015/newmembers1506_en.pdf)

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

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

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Tel: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452

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

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