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## ■Letter of Protest Against Nuclear Test Conducted by DPRK

[January 6th, 2016]

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It was announced that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) conducted a nuclear test on January 6th. Mayors for Peace sent a Letter of Protest to First Chairman Kim Jong-Un under the name of the President of Mayors for Peace.

▼Letter of Protest, on the Mayors for Peace Website:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/statement/protest/160106\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/statement/protest/160106_en.pdf)

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## ■Mayors for Peace Membership in Iran Exceeds 800

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As of January 1, 2016, the number of Iranian member cities reached 812. More than 700 new members joined in 2014 and 2015, which represents the largest single-country increase in two years among all countries. This historical record was achieved by the team at the office for Iranian members of Mayors for Peace, which is based at the Tehran Peace Museum. They achieved this by consistently communicating with all the mayors in Iran and asking them to join our organization. Iran is now home to the second largest number of member cities of Mayors for Peace in the world after Japan.

▼Full article on the Mayors for Peace Website:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/membercity/2016/Iran/800members.html>

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## ■ Article on Mayors for Peace and its French Chapter in the International Magazine, “Presidency Key Brief”

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A four page article about Mayors for Peace and its French Chapter is featured in the latest edition of “Presidency Key Brief”, an international magazine to promote the ideas and the innovations which contribute to a sustainable future for generations to come. Its 6th edition has been handed to every COP 21 participant in Paris, including government leaders, diplomats, corporation leaders, NGOs and civil society representatives.

▼Article on Mayors for Peace in Presidency Key Brief (pages 54-58, French and English):

<http://goo.gl/bMtiZn>

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## ■The First Edition of “Peace in Wellington” Newsletter by Wellington, New Zealand, a Mayors for Peace Lead City

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In December 2015, the City of Wellington, a Lead City of Mayors for Peace, issued its first edition of the Peace in Wellington newsletter, which includes the City's peace related events in 2015 and a message from the Mayor.

▼Peace in Wellington Newsletter, Issue #1:

<http://us12.campaign-archive2.com/?u=070b38357bba2a9dad3c2e8f9&id=f6bcb5a178&e=de3959e37e>

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## ■“Peace News from Hiroshima” (Contributed by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center)

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A new year has begun. This year, 2016, is the 71st year since the atomic bombings. In April, a meeting of foreign ministers will be held in Hiroshima, with foreign ministers from the United States, the United Kingdom, and France, all

nuclear weapon states, visiting the city for the first time. We sincerely hope that they will tour the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, listen to first-hand accounts from A-bomb survivors, and deepen their understanding of the devastation that the atomic bomb brought to the city and its people. Also, this December will mark the 20th anniversary of the designation of the Atomic Bomb Dome, the symbol of this A-bombed city, as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In contrast with these good tidings, shortly after the year began, North Korea claimed that it conducted a hydrogen bomb test. Hiroshima's response is to steadfastly continue to carry out its duty of transmitting to the world the humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons.

Visit the following links for articles from the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.

- Hiroshima and Nagasaki mayors request that world leaders visit A-bombed cities

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=55056>

- A-bomb survivors fiercely criticize India-Japan nuclear agreement

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=55046>

- A-bomb survivors, Hiroshima mayor and governor, condemn North Korean nuclear test

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=55434>

- Quake resistance work begins on A-bomb Dome to reinforce brick walls

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=54795>

- U.S. Ambassador Kennedy calls visiting A-bombed cities a powerful experience

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=54952>

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## ■ Launch of the Mayors for Peace Information System

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An online information system for Mayors for Peace has been launched in order to facilitate information sharing among member cities. This system enables searches for member cities' information, the renewal of records by each member as well as payment of membership fees by credit card without any transfer charges. We hope that each member city will keep their own information up-to-date and utilize this system for their activities related to Mayors for Peace. The instructions on how to use this system are included in an email which was sent to each member city.

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System:

<https://www.mfpinfosys.org/>

▼ Mayors for Peace Information System Operating Manual:

[https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu\\_pdf\\_en.pdf](https://www.mfpinfosys.org/manual/secure/pdfs/lec7/lm/07manu_pdf_en.pdf)

▼ Please email us at the following address if you have any inquiries about the Mayors for Peace Information System:

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

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## ■ Mayors for Peace Membership Fee Payment

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At the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in August 2013, introduction of an annual membership fee was determined in order to strengthen the foundation of Mayors for Peace and the sense of solidarity amongst member cities. Last year, we instituted an annual membership fee of 2,000 Japanese Yen per city (about USD15-16 / EUR12-15). We would like to thank everyone for their 2015 membership fee contributions. The funds raised by this fee will be utilized as a resource for the projects listed on the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017).

The request for payment of 2016 membership fee will be sent in April. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

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## ■ Request for Reports on Commemorative Events for the 70th Anniversary of the Atomic Bombings

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Last year, Hiroshima and Nagasaki marked the landmark 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. In response to our request to hold commemorative events, many cities, municipalities and peace organizations around the world observed events during the year, which we sincerely appreciate.

The list of events commemorating the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings, as based on reports received from member cities, is available at the link below.



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