



Mayors for Peace Newsletter

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

September 1, 2006 / No.24

Good Faith Challenge

Campaign to Promote Good Faith Negotiations

Announcing a new step in the 2020 Vision Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons

In 2003, Mayors for Peace launched an Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons (2020 Vision Campaign) with the goal of eliminating all nuclear weapons by 2020. We have lobbied hard for this by attending the NPT Review Conference and directly approaching national governments. We continue working with many cities, citizens and NGOs around the world to arouse public demand for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

In July 1996, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) issued an advisory opinion in which it declared that "...the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law." That opinion also found all governments to be under a legal obligation to negotiate "in good faith" to abolish nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, the nuclear-weapon states have yet to give any serious indication that they intend to eliminate their nuclear weapons. Indeed, they are deploying vast numbers of tactical nuclear weapons, and continue to threaten to destroy cities around the world.

This year, as we commemorated the tenth anniversary of the ICJ advisory opinion, Mayors for Peace reaffirmed its meaning and importance by launching Phase II of our 2020 Vision Campaign. This new effort will call on the nuclear-weapon states, other governments, cities and citizens around



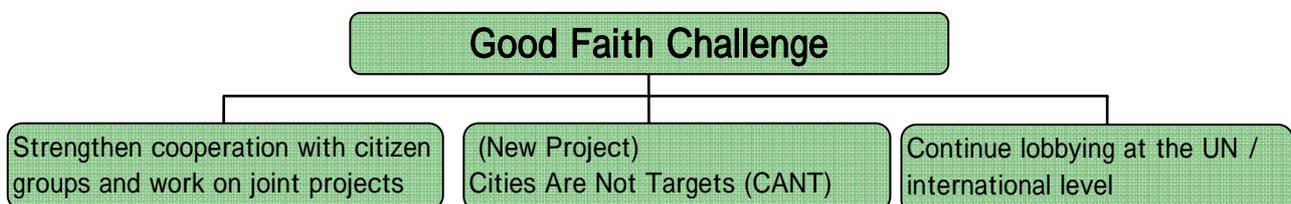
The commemorative meeting at the ICJ

the world to take up the Good Faith Challenge.

For our part as cities, we are already promoting our Cities Are Not Targets (CANT) project*, through which we will encourage cities to demand assurances from the nuclear-weapon states that no cities are targeted for nuclear attack. Through the media, the Internet, and our network of cities, we are requesting targeting information from nuclear-weapon states, then demanding that all such targeting immediately be terminated. Through this activity, we intend to arouse public demand for the nuclear-weapon states to change their policies and conscientiously pursue the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The new campaign was announced by Dr. Tadatashi Akiba, mayor of Hiroshima and president of the Mayors for Peace, at a meeting we sponsored at the home of the International Court of Justice in The Hague (Netherlands). The meeting was held on July 5 (Wed.) to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the ICJ's landmark advisory opinion.

Details about the 2020 Vision Campaign and the Good Faith Challenge are available at the Mayors for Peace website: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org>



* For an introduction to the CANT project, please see page 3.

Mayors for Peace Delegation Attends 10th Anniversary of ICJ Advisory Opinion

To commemorate the tenth anniversary of the ICJ (International Court of Justice) advisory opinion that "...the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law," a Mayoral Delegation comprising 15 city members of Mayors for Peace from 11 countries attended commemoration events organized by allied European NGOs.

[Mayoral Delegation Activities]

July 2 (Sunday): England

- 1) Participation in peace rally at Aldermaston
- 2) Participation in public discussion regarding nuclear weapons in Reading

July 3 (Monday): England

- 1) Meeting with Mr. Ken Livingstone, mayor of London
- 2) Meeting with Mr. Hugh Powell, director general for Defense and Intelligence
- 3) Participation in public discussion in the British Parliament

July 4 (Tuesday): Netherlands

- 1) Meeting with Mr. Michiel den Hond, ambassador at large
- 2) Participation in opening of the Exhibition for Disarmament and Peace (sponsored by Leidschendam)

July 5 (Wednesday): Netherlands

- 1) Meeting to mark 10th anniversary of the ICJ advisory opinion
- 2) Participation in Peace Conference (sponsored by The Hague)

July 6 (Thursday): Belgium

- 1) Meeting with Mr. Karel De Gucht, foreign minister of Belgium
- 2) Meeting at NATO Headquarters with Colonel Guy B. Roberts, deputy assistant secretary general, and Mr. Heinz Ferkinghoff, deputy director for Nuclear Policy

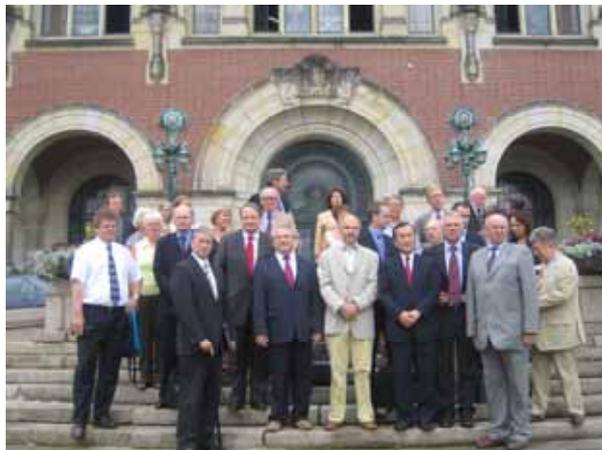
July 7 (Friday): Belgium

- 1) Meeting with Ms. Anne-Marie Lizin, chairwoman of the Senate of Belgium
- 2) Conference to commemorate 10th anniversary of ICJ advisory opinion
- 3) Grand opening of 2020 Vision Campaign International Secretariat
- 4) Participation in ceremony to mourn victims of First World War

[City members of the Mayoral Delegation]

Laakdal (Belgium)	Gesves (Belgium)
Malakoff (France)	Radeberg (Germany)
Manchester (England)	Brighton and Hove (England)
Coventry (England)	London (England)
Pineto (Italy)	Oostzaan (Netherlands)
North Olmsted (US)	Dhaka (Bangladesh)
Sulaymaniya (Iraq)	Wakiso (Uganda)
Hiroshima (Japan)	

A total of 15 cities in 11 countries



Mayors for Peace Mayoral Delegation
(In front of the ICJ)

10th Anniversary Meeting for the Advisory Opinion at the International Court of Justice

On July 5, 2006, to mark the 10th anniversary of the advisory opinion issued by the International Court of Justice in July 1996, a commemorative meeting sponsored by Mayors for Peace was held in the Japan Room of the Peace Palace in which the ICJ chambers are located.

Dr. Kate Dewes, a founder of the World Court Project, and Judge Christopher Weeramantry, an ICJ judge in 1996, were invited as guest speakers. The meeting of about 40 participants was attended by the Mayors for Peace Mayoral Delegation, IALANA (International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms), IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War), and many other NGO representatives.

Dr. Dewes presented a keynote address on the theme, *History of the UN General Assembly Request for an Advisory Opinion*. She described the historical process that led to the advisory opinion, including the discussions that were taking place at the time in the General Assembly.

Judge Weeramantry, in a speech entitled, *The Legal Obligations and Constraints Identified by the Court*, spoke about the importance and limits of the advisory opinion as a factor in international law. He pointed to the need for citizen action to demand that the nuclear-weapon states take action toward nuclear disarmament. Next, Mayor Akiba, as representative of Mayors for Peace, announced Phase II of the 2020 Vision Campaign, introducing the Good Faith Challenge. Each member of the Mayoral Delegation then offered comments, followed by a lively discussion involving the NGO representatives and all present.

[New Project]

Cities Are Not Targets (CANT)

The concrete response of cities to the Good Faith Challenge, the Cities Are Not Targets (CANT) project, will encourage cities around the world to demand assurances from nuclear-weapon states that they are not targeted and will not be targeted for nuclear attack. The purpose of this project is to reveal the cruel absurdity of the “nuclear deterrence” theory and the “nuclear umbrella” that have for so long held cities hostage. We will defend from a moral and legal viewpoint our citizens’ right to life.

[Concrete actions]

- 1) Ask nuclear-weapon states for information regarding the targeting of a given city.
- 2) Demand assurance that the city is not and will not be targeted.
- 3) Send delegations to visit nuclear-weapon state governments; demand the elimination of any possibility that a city will be targeted.
- 4) Pass proclamations by the mayor or resolutions by the City Council; collect signatures on petitions (to be submitted to the nuclear-weapon state government during the above-mentioned delegation visits).

Note) **Good Faith Challenge:** This campaign takes the term “good faith” from Article VI of the NPT and from the ICJ advisory opinion of July 1996.

Quick Action by Malakoff, France

Malakoff has already taken action to support the CANT project.

During a Hiroshima Day commemoration in front of the Peace Wall facing the Eiffel Tower, Malakoff arranged the display of a large banner that read,



“Cities Are Not Targets.”

Please follow Malakoff’s example and take action in your city for the Cities Are Not Targets project.

2020 Vision Campaign International Secretariat Opened in Ieper, Belgium



Mayors for Peace Monument, “Peace Pole”, in Ieper, Belgium

To better promote the 2020 Vision Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons by 2020, Mayors for Peace, with assistance from the government of Ieper, Belgium, opened a new International Secretariat Office on July 7, 2006. The opening ceremony was attended by the Mayoral Delegation to the events commemorating the 10th anniversary of the ICJ advisory opinion. Mayor

of Akiba, the city of Hiroshima, on behalf of the Mayoral Delegation, expressed gratitude to the city of Ieper and his great expectations for the growth of the campaign.

With the International Secretariat as a new base, the 2020 Vision Campaign manager, Aaron Tovish, will vigorously promote the Good Faith Challenge and the Cities Are Not Targets (CANT) project in Europe and around the world.

In addition to supporting the International Secretariat, the city of Ieper has erected a Mayors for Peace “Peace Pole”, has assigned a liaison to Mayors for Peace, and in other ways is playing an active role as a member of Mayors for Peace.

2020 Vision Campaign International Secretariat

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PLEASE DONATE TO THE CAMPAIGN

Mayors for Peace, working with member mayors, NGOs and private citizens, is working hard to promote the 2020 Vision Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. However, the campaign is being held back by a lack of funds. If we are to actually abolish nuclear weapons by 2020, we need your help. Please donate as much as possible to the Mayors for Peace Campaign. Send your donations to:

Account name: Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons Steering Committee

Account: Hiroshima Bank, Hiroshima City Hall Branch, Regular Acct. 3004641, Swift code- HIROJPJT

Mayors for Peace Meeting in New Zealand

On May 12, 2006, in Wellington, New Zealand, Mayor Gary Moore of Christchurch, a vice president of Mayors for Peace, organized a meeting of New Zealand's Mayors for Peace. This meeting confirmed the need to spread the circle of activities of Mayors for Peace and strengthen internal cooperation.

Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima presided at the meeting, which included mayors or City Council members representing nine New Zealand cities (5 members and 4 non-members). Christchurch described its recent efforts for peace and proposed bringing A-bomb witnesses to New Zealand to communicate the facts of the atomic bombing. Mayor Moore also directly asked the non-member cities to join, and all responded positively.

While in New Zealand, Mayor Akiba also met with Mr. Philip Bruce Goff, New Zealand's Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control, and attended a



Mayors for Peace Meeting in
New Zealand

disarmament conference entitled *Threats to Peace and Disarmament*. Throughout his trip, he requested assistance for the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign.

Mayors for Peace Membership as of August 28, 2006

1416 cities in 120 countries and regions

First members in Estonia, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Thailand, South Korea, and Bosnia and Herzegovina; membership increasing in Asia, including Iraq and Palestine.

[Membership by Region as of August 28, 2006]

Asia – 162 cities in 29 countries and regions
Oceania – 76 cities in 8 countries and regions
Africa – 40 cities in 23 countries
Europe – 976 cities in 40 countries
North/Central America – 141 cities in 11 countries
South America – 21 cities in 9 countries
Total 1416 cities in 120 countries and regions

Please help us recruit new members and spread the circle of solidarity.

Participation in World Urban Forum and World Peace Forum

Mayors for Peace was represented at the World Urban Forum (June 19-23) and the World Peace Forum (June 23-28) in Vancouver, Canada. The Urban forum drew 10,000 participants from around the world to discuss the entire spectrum of urban problems, from pollution to population to art and culture.

The World Peace Forum drew approximately 5,000 participants. The University of British Columbia campus, the venue, was a beehive of peace activity as participants moved quickly from workshop to workshop. The issue of nuclear weapons was extremely well represented throughout.

Mayors for Peace worked with the International Association of Peace Messenger Cities to hold a plenary session on the 24th and a Mayors Dialogue on the 25th. On July 27th, a roundtable workshop with Parliamentarian Network for Nuclear Disarmament (PNND) featured US Congressman Dennis Kucinich speaking from Washington D.C. by videoconference about his House Resolution 950 calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Mayor Corrigan of Barnaby, Canada, and T.J. Johnson, councilman from Olympia, U.S.A., both spoke eloquently about Mayors for Peace and the how their lives were changed when they visited Hiroshima. A message from Mayor Akiba, president of Mayors for Peace, was read at the closing ceremony.

Information and Requests from the Mayors for Peace Secretariat

- These days, nearly all our communication and information exchange takes place via e-mail. Therefore, we are doing our best to update the e-mail addresses and other information for each city in our database. Please send us your latest contact information, and please be sure to inform us if your e-mail address or the name of your mayor changes. Thank you.

- The Mayors for Peace website presents the peace activities of member cities. Please send us any information you may have regarding any peace activities by any cities.

Mayors for Peace Secretariat

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