The first Preparatory Committee meeting for the next NPT Review Conference (to be held in 2010) will be held in Vienna, Austria this May. Mayors for Peace will participate to promote our 2020 Vision Campaign and renew our call for conclusion of a Nuclear Weapons Convention by 2010.

Our Good Faith Challenge, launched last July, will be actively pursued as Phase II of the 2020 Vision Campaign. A particular priority will be the Cities Are Not Targets (CANT) project described below on page 2. This project will call on nuclear-weapon states and all governments to engage in good-faith negotiations for the elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby arousing international public demand. In addition, we will utilize UN and other international conferences to call for support of the 2020 vision. In these and other ways, we will redouble our efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons by 2020.

General Meetings of Mayors for Peace are held every four years. In the second intervening year, we hold Executive Committee Meetings to deliberate our action plan and set the agenda and directions for the following General Meeting. The year 2007 comes between our 6th General Meeting in 2005 and our 7th, which will be held in 2009. Thus, we will hold an Executive Committee Meeting where we expect to discuss plans for the 2020 Vision Campaign, and plan for the 7th General Meeting to be held in Nagasaki. The date and venue for the Executive Meeting are still under discussion.
Through the CANT project, the cities of the world will make it abundantly clear to all nuclear-weapon states that “we no longer tolerate being hostages to the nuclear threat.” Highlighting the inhumanity and illegality of targeting cities full of innocent noncombatants, the project is a serious effort to force nuclear weapon states to change their policies. Concretely, we are expecting each member city to express to their own government and to the governments of all nuclear-weapon states their belief that the obliteration of cities is illegal and their desire for good-faith efforts toward the abolition of nuclear weapons. We are also calling for events in each city to raise consciousness among residents.

To effectively promote this project, we need hundreds of cities around the world representing the will of the human family and sending out a powerful message that nuclear weapons are unacceptable. Please become involved and implement the following in your city:

**Please send letters to the national governments of nuclear-weapon states demanding that cities not be targeted for attack and that they engage constructively in good-faith negotiations to abolish nuclear weapons.**

**Please work to pass resolutions that clearly support the CANT project in various local government organizations in your country. The US Conference of Mayors, for example, has passed such a resolution. Meanwhile, we will be working for a resolution at the World Congress of the United Cities and Local Governments to be held October 2007 in Jeju, South Korea. It would also be extremely helpful for individual cities to pass their own resolutions.**

**Finally, we ask that you communicate the CANT project to your citizens and that you support the campaign as a part of the peace activities in your own city.**

To learn more about the 2020 Vision, and the Good Faith Challenge, please visit the Mayors for Peace website at: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org

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On December 20 last year, we registered 95 German cities. Now, Germany has 281 members, making it, once again, the country with the most Mayors for Peace. Elsewhere in Europe our rapid growth continues with 24 new Italian cities and 20 Austrian cities. Please disseminate our information and do whatever you can to recruit new members to keep the circle of solidarity spreading.
To arouse public sentiment for the abolition of nuclear weapons in Northern Europe, Mayor Akiba of Hiroshima, president of Mayors for Peace, visited Northern Europe in September last year. There, he took every opportunity to ask governments and NGOs to support Mayors for Peace and strengthen the bonds among member cities. His primary activities were:

On September 8, Mayor Akiba met with Mr. Matti Vanhanen, prime minister of Finland, and Dr. Erkki Tuomioja, the minister of Foreign Affairs. He explained the Mayors for Peace campaign and our 2020 Vision and requested support at the UN. In response, Prime Minister Vanhanen expressed support and a determination that Finland would do everything in its power to promote the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The same day, Mayor Akiba attended the 17th World Congress of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) where he delivered a keynote address to the first plenary session on the theme “Nuclear Abolition.”

On September 12, Mayor Akiba met with Mr. Kjetil Skogrand, Norway’s Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. He expressed gratitude for the role Norway has played in the field of nuclear disarmament and asked for continued leadership until concrete results are achieved. Asking for redoubled disarmament effort, he handed the deputy minister a letter asking the Norwegian prime minister for cooperation in abolishing nuclear weapons.

Mayor Akiba later spoke at a conference sponsored by a coalition of NGOs in Oslo. After explaining the facts of the bombing and the accomplishments of the hibakusha, he called on the approximately 100 representatives of Mayors for Peace member cities, NGOs, and lay citizens in attendance to work more actively than ever to eliminate nuclear weapons and build genuine world peace.

He also met with Mayor Herman Kristoffersen of Tromsø, Mayor Per Ditlev-Simonsen of Oslo, and Deputy Mayor Olav Sigurd Alstad of Narvik seeking to strengthen collaboration for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

On October 9, 2006, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) tested a nuclear weapon. On October 10, Mayors for Peace send a protest letter to DPRK. We then issued a further statement demanding that all nuclear-weapon states immediately terminate all nuclear weapons programs and tests and ban all use of such weapons. The letter also demanded the prompt start of good-faith negotiations toward nuclear disarmament and a commitment not to target any city with nuclear weapons.

The protest letter and statement are available on the Mayors for Peace website, and we called on member cities to issue similar statements and release them to the media. Please go to our website to see the protest and statement. (http://www.mayorsforpeace.org)

The Nobel Peace Prize-winning NGO International Peace Bureau (IPB) awarded its Sean MacBride Award to Mayors for Peace. This prize, established in 1992, is given every year to a group or individual who makes a conspicuous contribution to peace and disarmament.

An award ceremony was held in September last year during an IPB General Assembly in Helsinki. IPB Chairwoman Cora Weiss presented a medal to Mayor Akiba, president of Mayors for Peace. The same medal was presented by former IPB Vice Chairwoman Kate Dewes to Mayor Itoh of Nagasaki at the Global Citizens’ Assembly held in Nagasaki in October.

In explaining the award, Chairwoman Weiss pointed to the 2020 Vision and the global scale of Mayors for Peace activities, which, she stated, have helped significantly to arouse international public demand for the abolition of nuclear weapons and realization of genuine world peace. She expressed great expectations for continued Mayors for Peace campaigning and the desire for closer cooperation with IPB.
We want the world to know the facts about the atomic bombings. We want to stimulate public demand for the abolition of nuclear weapons. For these purposes, we will be glad to loan you our Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb posters. Please use these posters to hold an A-bomb exhibition in your city or school. For more information, contact the Mayors for Peace Secretariat.

[A-bomb Photo Poster Set]
The set includes photos and explanations that present an easy-to-understand explanation of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the current world situation regarding nuclear weapons.

* For the English version, we are able to provide the posters as ready-to-print digital data on CD-ROM or DVD.

Languages: English, French, German, Russian, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, Korean, and Japanese
Number: The set includes 30 posters.
Size: 90cm x 60cm

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**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.