



Mayors for Peace

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Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

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His Excellency Mr. Barack Obama
President
The United States of America

Dear Mr. President,

I hope this message finds you well. I assume you must be very busy in the final months of your presidency.

I am writing this message from Hiroshima to express once again my sincere gratitude and offer my humble hope.

More than six months have passed since you became the first sitting U.S. president to visit Hiroshima. I still vividly remember that historic day and the message for peace through which you conveyed anew your strong desire to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons. The people of Hiroshima were moved when you acknowledged the heartfelt wish of the *hibakusha* who, in the midst of their suffering and sorrow, have come to the conviction that “no one should ever again suffer as we have.” It has been a great source of hope for us that you emphasized the importance of making a better future based on the experiences of the *hibakusha*.

We strongly believe that you will continue your efforts to realize a world without nuclear weapons even after completion of your term, and we hope that you will offer your kind support to the initiatives of Hiroshima in pursuit of nuclear weapons abolition and lasting world peace. We especially ask for your understanding and support of the activities of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, which seeks to contribute to the culture of peace and promotes world peace for the happiness of all humanity. The foundation is in charge of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Mayors for Peace, an international non-governmental organization of over 7,100 cities in 162 countries and regions around the world. We would be deeply honored and grateful if you could give favorable consideration to the possibility of future collaboration between our Foundation and the Barack Obama Foundation.

Sincerely hoping that I will have the pleasure of seeing you again sometime in the near future, I close with my best wishes for your continued good health and success in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

MATSUI Kazumi
Mayor of Hiroshima
President of Mayors for Peace