His Excellency Mr. Junichiro Koizumi  
Prime Minister of Japan  

February 18, 2005  

Request for leadership and positive action for the total elimination of nuclear weapons at the Review  
Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT)  

The Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the most crucial  
conference for the elimination of nuclear weapons, will be held at UN Headquarters in New York from May 2 to 27  
this year.  

Since 1982, Hiroshima and Nagasaki have jointly chaired the Mayors for Peace, an organization that seeks  
to galvanize international will to work for a peaceful world free of nuclear weapons. Our rapidly growing membership,  
now 714 cities in 110 nations and regions, demonstrates the growing international consensus that nuclear weapons  
must be abolished.  

A gleam of hope appeared in the “unequivocal undertaking” by the nuclear weapon states to “accomplish  
the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals,” adopted by the 2000 NPT Review Conference. However, the current  
situation regarding nuclear disarmament constitutes a crisis.  

The United States, the nuclear superpower, has refused to accept a treaty that would ban the use of nuclear  
weapons against Non-nuclear Weapons States. In addition, leading up to the NPT Review Conference this year, the US  
has signaled its intent to declare null and void the “unequivocal undertaking” and the 13 steps it agreed to at the  
previous review conference in 2000.  

Following the US lead, other nuclear weapon states have similarly made no significant efforts to eliminate  
nuclear weapons. Thus, the NPT regime, the central agreement for the abolition of nuclear weapons, is on the verge of  
collapse.  

To cope with this situation, we request that the Government of Japan, as the responsible agent of the only  
nation to have suffered nuclear attacks, fully support the Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons initiated by  
the Mayors for Peace and play an active, leading role at the NPT Review Conference pressing for adoption of an  
action program that calls for conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention by 2010 and the total elimination of nuclear  
weapons by 2020.  

To demonstrate publicly Japan’s determination never to possess nuclear weapons and clarify this position at  
home and abroad, we sincerely hope that the Government of Japan will articulate an approach to national security that  
does not rely on the “nuclear umbrella” and make every possible effort to legislate the prohibition of nuclear  
armaments.  

Mayors for Peace is planning to participate in the NPT Review Conference this year with a delegation of  
more than 100 mayors. We will be most grateful for your endorsement of our activities, including negotiations with  
officials representing the Nuclear Weapons States and attendance by Japanese Government Officials at meetings  
hosted by Mayors for Peace.  

Sincerely,  

The World Conference of Mayors for Peace  

Tadatoshi Akiba    President    Mayor of Hiroshima  
Iecho Itoh         Vice President    Mayor of Nagasaki  
Stefano Bruni      Vice President    Mayor of Como  
Herbert Schmalstieg    Vice President    Mayor of Hannover  
Catherine Margate   Vice President    Mayor of Malakoff  
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Jaime R. Fresnedi   Vice President    Mayor of Muntinlupa  
Eugeny P. Ishchenko    Vice President    Mayor of Volgograd