

## 100-Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace

There are only 100 days left until the International Day of Peace on September 21.

The International Day of Peace is an important day to have all countries and people around the world join forces to express their determination to realize everlasting world peace and reflect on the importance and preciousness of peace. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt respect to United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres for the leadership he has shown in strongly promoting this day.

As a way toward lasting world peace, Mayors for Peace has established and is working for two main objectives: "Realization of a world without nuclear weapons" and "Realization of safe and resilient cities." We fully support the ideas behind the International Day of Peace, and have in the past held commemorative events and called on our member cities around the world to participate by holding their own events.

In 2021, we once again call upon our 8,031 member cities from 165 countries and regions around the world to hold events on a day between August 6 and August 9, which respectively mark the dates of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and on September 21, the International Day of Peace, in order to share their desire for peace with as many people as possible and to pray for its realization.

Currently, the world is working together to tackle COVID-19; proof that we are capable of responding to this threat. In much the same way, I believe that the people of the world will be able to overcome the threat posed to humankind by nuclear weapons through coming together in solidarity based on common ground: nuclear weapons are an absolute evil that must be abolished.

Let us now, as member cities of Mayors for Peace, use the 100 days leading up to September 21 to rally our voices together and call for peace, so that, in solidarity with people around the world, we can make concerted efforts toward our common goal of a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons.

June 13, 2021

Handwritten signature in black ink, reading '松井一貴' (Matsui Kazumi).

MATSUI Kazumi  
Mayor of Hiroshima  
President of Mayors for Peace