

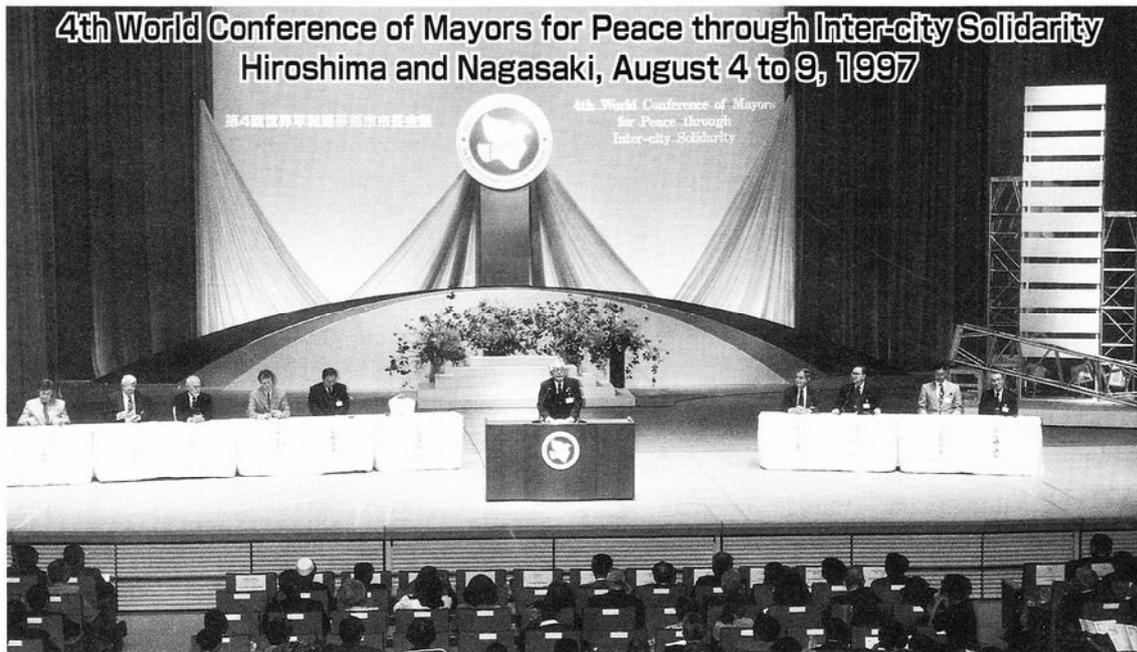


Inter-city Solidarity *Newsletter*

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

November 20, 1997 No.8

Will for Peace Intensifying in Cities Around the World



Mayor of Hiroshima Takashi Hiraoka delivering greetings at the opening ceremony (August 5, Hiroshima)

Peace, Justice, and Freedom : Efforts Toward Global Harmony was the theme of the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity in the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki August 4 (Mon.) to August 9 (Sat.). The conference began with a city-oriented look back at the "century of war," and continued on to a wide-ranging discussion of future steps toward nuclear abolition after the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). How to address such obstacles to peace as starvation, poverty, the suppression of human rights, and environmental destruction were also discussed.

The conference was attended by a total of 242 representatives of 117 cities in 33 countries. Of these, 157 were representatives of 75 cities in 32 countries other than Japan, while 85 represented 42 Japanese cities.

We profoundly regret that representatives from several cities were forced to cancel at the last minute because of terrorist actions or serious domestic problems that erupted just

before the conference, but we were happy about the participation of 42 new cities, including five from South Africa.

At the general meeting held on August 5, the following cities were elected as executive cities of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity.

President City	Hiroshima (Japan)
Vice President	Nagasaki (Japan)
Cities	Berlin (Germany)
	Como (Italy)
	Hannover (Germany)
	Malakoff (France)
	Muntinlupa (Philippines)
	Volgograd (Russia)
	Wollongong (Australia)

“From a Century of War to a Century of Peace”, Strengthened City Network Confirmed

Conference Summary

Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony began on August 5 at 10 a.m.. Takashi Hiraoka, mayor of Hiroshima and president of the Conference, offered remarks, followed by Paul Kavanaugh, director of the United Nations Information Centre (reading a message from United Nations Secretary General), and Yuzan Fujita, governor of Hiroshima Prefecture. These addresses were followed by Martin Harwit, former director of the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, who presented a special speech entitled *Nuclear Weapons, the Lessons of History, and the Future of Humankind*. (See summary on page 8.)



Before the opening ceremony; participants dedicating flowers at the Cenotaph for the A-bomb Victims (August 5, Hiroshima)

Plenary Session I

Plenary session I began at 1:45 p.m. on August 5, with the theme, *Lessons of the 20th Century and Issues for the 21st Century: From a Century of War to a Century of Peace*. First, coordinator Toshiki Mogami, a professor at International Christian University, gave the keynote report in which he said, “The 20th century was a century of war. To make the 21st century a century of peace, the primary issue is how to overcome the present political culture of violence. I hope that we will search at this conference for an answer to this key question.”

Representatives of the cities expressed such opinions as:

- “We need to call on human wisdom to avoid repeating Hiroshima and Nagasaki.”;
- “We are trying to move from a century of orders to a century of persuasion. We must proceed through dialogue, building relationships of mutual trust.”;
- “Until the world can eliminate poverty, we can never know true peace.”



Plenary Session I

Plenary Session II

Plenary session II took place at 9:30 a.m. on the 6th with the theme, *A World Free of Nuclear Weapons through the Efforts of Citizens: Nuclear Weapons Abolition and International Solidarity*.

First, coordinator Kinhide Mushakoji, a professor at Meiji Gakuin University, presented the keynote report. “Now is the time for citizens to organize at the city level and create a worldwide network to establish the right of people to live in peace. Now is the time to make the suffering of the *hibakusha* in Hiroshima and Nagasaki the starting point for city-centered human security.”

City representatives expressed such opinions as:

- “If we can increase membership in this Mayors Conference and work closely with NGOs around the world, we can generate real momentum on a global scale.”;
- “The raising and dissemination of peace consciousness among the children who will bear the 21st century is important.”;
- “We need to exchange ideas among cities and deepen international coordination at a grassroots level.”



At the Peace Candle Service held the evening of August 6, candles made by the children of Hiroshima and inscribed by conference participants, the children, and others, filled the area around the A-bomb Dome with light and messages of peace.

Session I

Session I, entitled *What Should be Done to Abolish Nuclear Weapons after the CTBT* began at 1 p.m. on August 6. Coordinator Toshiki Mogami offered the keynote report saying, "The situation after adoption of the CTBT does not allow for optimism for three reasons: first, India and others are making it clear that they do not intend to ratify the CTBT; second, the United States continues to conduct subcritical nuclear testing; and third, the US is proceeding with plans to develop small nuclear weapons."

City representatives expressed such opinions as:

— "The CTBT must be put into force as soon as possible. The next step is for the international community to begin calling loudly for immediate negotiations toward a ban on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons, the Cut Off Treaty." ;

— "We adopted an ordinance prohibiting the purchase of goods from companies related to the production of nuclear weapons. Even a small city can become involved in the issue of international peace."



Professor Mogami offering the keynote report at Session I.

Session II

Session II, entitled *The Advancement of Scientific Technology and the Construction of a New Societal System* also began at 1 p.m. August 6. First, coordinator Yoko Kitazawa, president of the Pacific Asia Resource Center, offered the keynote report. "After the Cold War, the United Nations adopted an action plan calling for a series of conferences, beginning with the Rio Earth Summit. The two primary topics for these conferences are the elimination of poverty and preservation of the environment. National governments have their responsibilities in implementing this action plan, but it will not succeed without full cooperation from local public entities and NGOs."

City representatives expressed such opinions as:

— "We need social systems that can carefully control scientific technology." ;



Session II

— "People talk about the peace dividend, but the effect has been negligible in most developing countries." ;

— "There is increasing unemployment in advanced countries as well. Poverty is not just a problem for developing countries."

Session III

The conference moved to Nagasaki on the 7th, and Session III, entitled *Toward a Peaceful Society through International Solidarity*, was held at 2:30 p.m. on August 8. First, coordinator Tsutomu Mizota, a professor at the Institute of Tropical Medicine at Nagasaki University, offered the keynote report. "Creating peace, exchange among cities, international coordination with NGOs/NPOs, and closer relationships between national governments and local public entities will be extremely important. I would like us to explore 1) what forms of coordination beyond borders are available; 2) what dialogue is necessary to pursue such coordination; and 3) policies and concrete proposals that should be pursued cooperatively."

City representatives expressed such opinions as:

— "We should work toward increasing sister-city relationships and improving the quality of the exchanges." ;

— "We need a world city network to facilitate NPO activities." ;

— "To seek peace while maintaining development, we need to recognize and respect diverse values."



Session III

Session IV

Session IV entitled *Peace Education and Creation of Peace Culture for Our Future Generations*, also began at 2:30 p.m. on August 8. First, coordinator Shinji Takahashi, a professor at the Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science, offered the keynote report. "What should be done to create more positive education and peace culture? What examples have we of positive activities? I hope this session will focus on these positive aspects."

City representatives expressed such opinions as:

—"Education cultivates human nature. The love of peace can be cultivated through education." ;

—"As symbolized by the diversity of languages, there are huge differences among races, religions, and cultures. However, we have to focus on that which is common to us all." ;

—"We should put the valuable information of the Mayors Conference on the Internet and share it not only with supporting cities but with the younger generation as well."



The mayor of Wollongong, David Campbell delivering an address during the closing ceremony.

Plenary Session III

Plenary session III, *Harmony in a Diverse Society*, began at 2:30 p.m. on August 9, coordinated by Professor Mogami. This session was also a wrap up of the conference as a whole.

Closing Ceremony

At the closing ceremony, which took place at 3:30 p.m. August 9, the participants unanimously adopted the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Appeal (see page 5), bringing down the curtain on this 4th Mayors Conference.



Participants deepening their exchange
(Farewell Dinner, August 9, Nagasaki)

After this six-day Conference our strongest feelings were those of surprise that the participants from all over the world were so close in their understanding of the problems. At the same time, a powerful urgency was expressed regarding the need to strengthen the network of communication among cities. We came away with the impression that cities are definitely, though still only feebly, emerging as entities that can and do truly transcend their nations. Conference president and Hiroshima mayor Takashi Hiraoka said at the farewell dinner, "I wish all cities would work with their residents to do something, anything, at least once a year in the service of peace."

We hope we will all continue to do our best to widen the circle of solidarity for peace.



Commemorative photo taken in front of Hiroshima Castle.
(Spouse program in Hiroshima)

The secretariat is now compiling a report on the conference. As soon as it is completed, we will distribute it to all member cities and those non-member cities that participated in the conference.

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Appeal Unanimously Adopted

Members of the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity unanimously adopted the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Appeal on the last day of the conference, August 9. On September 11, the secretariat forwarded this appeal to all national embassies in Tokyo, to United Nations Headquarters in New York and Geneva, to the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, to the International Atomic Energy Agency, and to major disarmament-related NGOs around the world.

HIROSHIMA-NAGASAKI APPEAL

The 20th century was an era of brutal world wars, depriving the lives of countless citizens. During World War II, Hiroshima and Nagasaki suffered the first atomic bomb attacks in the history of mankind. In Europe and in Asia, genocide of noncombatant civilians was carried out. These events highlighted the extent to which human conduct can be atrocious.

In the latter half of the 20th century, the economic gap between advanced and developing nations has widened drastically. This has led to further aggravation of poverty in developing nations and has intensified problems that constitute threats to peace such as the spread of hunger and epidemics caused by poverty and conflicts, the increase of refugees, violation of human rights, and ceaseless oppression against women and children in various parts of the world. As well, in addition to the threat of nuclear weapons, the Earth now faces the greatest environmental crisis in history in the form of global warming, ozone layer depletion, rapid increase of wastes, marine pollution, desertification and other problems.

In the present century, dramatic progress in science and technology has witnessed spectacular advances in economy, industry, information, communication and transportation. In contrast, however, most nations have prioritized their collective national interests over the promotion of international cooperation, and likewise have been inclined toward the pursuit for the primacy of economy in negligence of the value of human beings. This focus has begun to influence the life of people adversely in various ways.

In light of this situation, we, the representatives of 117 cities in 33 countries, convened at the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity, held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and thoroughly discussed the keynote theme of the conference: "Peace, Justice and Freedom: Efforts Toward Global Harmony"

As a result of this discussion, we now firmly believe that the confusions and anxieties presently besetting the world can be dispersed by making use of the lessons learned from the history of mankind in this century. We are determined to reinforce the values of civil society by promoting the causes of human rights and humanitarianism, and to strengthen ties linking citizens through international cooperation among cities. We also reaffirmed the following goals, to be attained by participating cities to transcend national boundaries, to rise above the differences in race, sex and age to open the door to the 21st century as the "Century of Peace" :

1. To foster international public opinion in favor of the abolition of weapons of mass destruction, notably nuclear weapons, and the large reduction of conventional weapons.
2. To promote peace education so as to instill "the love of peace and solidarity among people" in the youth, the generation that will lead the world in the coming century; and create a peace culture.

3. To cooperate in various fields, with the goal of resolving poverty, discrimination, violence, environmental destruction and other problems common to cities.

Furthermore, we, the participants in the World Conference of Mayors, jointly appeal to all national governments and international organizations to do the following:

1. To put the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) into effect, as soon as possible, toward the abolition of nuclear weapons, and for the same purpose, soon commence negotiations on the Convention Banning the Production of Fissile Material for Nuclear Weapons (Cut-off Treaty); in particular,
 - (1) To conclude an international treaty banning nuclear weapons
 - (2) To place an immediate and total ban on subcritical nuclear testing
 - (3) To promote the establishment of nuclear weapon-free zones on a global scale
2. To ensure the utmost care in the disposal of nuclear wastes produced from the reduction and dismantling of nuclear weapons as well as in the nonmilitary use of nuclear power.
3. To conclude an effective treaty prohibiting the production and transportation of anti-personnel landmines, in addition to observing the treaties for banning biological and chemical weapons, and to establish an international system for cooperation in removing anti-personnel landmines.
4. To decrease military expenditures through reduction of arms and other measures; and effectively use the enormous amount of funds that will become available as a result of these measures as a dividend of peace, for such purposes as environmental protection as well as the elimination of poverty; and to promote military-civilian conversion of industrial structure.
5. To hold the 4th Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament (SSD IV) by the end of the 20th century, in accordance with the decision at the United Nations General Assembly in 1996, with the goal of reaching final conclusions regarding issues related to disarmament.

We hereby resolve the above goals and state our strong support for the 1997 Peace Declarations of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Furthermore, united in solidarity based on our esteem for the diverse political, cultural and religious heritages of participating cities, we pledge to cooperate toward realizing an international community in which citizens can live lives free from the horrors of war, and enjoy affluence on an egalitarian basis, under the secure protection of basic human rights.

August 9, 1997
4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace
through Inter-city Solidarity

4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity Participant Cities

Asia (12 countries, 31 cities)

- 1 Bangladesh (1) : Chittagong
- 2 India (5) : Chennai, Imphal, Madurai, Mumbai, Trivandrum
- 3 Indonesia (1) : Semarang
- 4 Iran (6) : Dezful, Hamadan, Kerman, Mashhad, Qasr-shirin, Qom
- 5 Kazakhstan (1) : Semipalatinsk
- 6 Korea (1) : Taegu
- 7 Malaysia (1) : Kuching North
- 8 Mongolia (1) : Darkhan
- 9 Philippines (2) : Muntinlupa, Valenzuela
- 10 Sri Lanka (7) : Colombo, Galle, Gampaha, Kuliyaipitiya, Kurunegala, Minuwangoda, Nuwara Eliya
- 11 Turkey (2) : Bursa, Malatya
- 12 Viet Nam (3) : Hai Phong, Hanoi, Hue

Africa (4 countries, 9 cities)

- 1 Cameroon (2) : Douala, Yaounde
- 2 Kenya (1) : Mombasa
- 3 Rwanda (1) : Kigali
- 4 South Africa (5) : Durban (North Central), Durban (South Central), East London, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria

Oceania (2 countries, 2 cities)

- 1 Australia (1) : Wollongong
- 2 Micronesia (1) : Kolonia

Europe (11 countries, 24 cities)

- 1 Belgium (1) : Ghent
- 2 France (6) : Angers, Aubagne, Malakoff, Nanterre, Saint-Denis, Vitry-sur-Seine
- 3 Germany (3) : Berlin, Hannover, Kiel
- 4 Greece (2) : Agii Anargiri, Peristeri
- 5 Italy (4) : Como, Corsico, Grizzana Morandi, Marzabotto
- 6 Lithuania (1) : Klaipeda

- 7 Russia (1) : Volgograd
- 8 Slovak (1) : Kosice
- 9 Spain (2) : Barcelona, Gernika-Lumo
- 10 U.K. (2) : Brighton, Coventry
- 11 Ukraine (1) : Kiev

North America (3 countries, 9 cities)

- 1 Canada (1) : Vancouver
- 2 Mexico (1) : Hermosillo
- 3 U.S.A. (7) : Charleston (SC), Fort Collins, Honolulu, Houston, Minneapolis, Takoma Park, Waynesville

Japan (42 local governments)

- 1 Hokkaido (1) : Sapporo
- 2 Yamagata (1) : Yamagata
- 3 Miyagi (1) : Sendai
- 4 Fukushima (1) : Koriyama
- 5 Chiba (1) : Chiba
- 6 Tokyo (8) : Tokyo, Ota, Katsushika, Shinjuku, Chiyoda, Nakano, Hachioji, Machida
- 7 Kanagawa (3) : Yokohama, Kawasaki, Sagami-hara
- 8 Aichi (1) : Nagoya
- 9 Nagano (1) : Nagano
- 10 Kyoto (1) : Kyoto
- 11 Osaka (3) : Osaka, Sakai, Toyonaka
- 12 Hyogo (2) : Kobe, Kakogawa
- 13 Hiroshima (6) : Hiroshima Prefecture, Hiroshima, Fukuyama, Kure, Hatsukaichi, Fuchu-cho
- 14 Kagawa (1) : Takamatsu
- 15 Fukuoka (2) : Fukuoka, Kitakyushu
- 16 Nagasaki (6) : Nagasaki Prefecture, Nagasaki, Sasebo, Shimabara, Hirado, Matsuura
- 17 Okinawa (3) : Naha, Okinawa, Kitanakagusuku-son

Total : 33 countries 117 cities

※ For each region, country names are listed in alphabetical order.

4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity Special Speech Summary

Nuclear Weapons, the Lessons of History, and the Future of Humankind

Martin Harwit
Former Director of the National Air and Space Museum,
Smithsonian Institution



We are gathered here today from all over the world to recall the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Let us also remember the uncountable men, women, and children on all continents who lost their lives in this most terrible of all wars. My purpose will be to point to a global resource that will have to be utilized if we are to build an enduring peace. It instructs on how past generations were able to build trust, or why they chose to pursue each others' destruction. The global resource is the history of humankind, the recorded experience of all nations, and the mayors of cities bear responsibility for the public display of history in municipal museums.

A program of public history can entail difficulties. At the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, in 1995, we were ready to mount an exhibition commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the mission of the Enola Gay that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima. The museum wanted to exhibit how the decision to drop the bomb

was reached and intended to borrow artifacts from institutions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki to illustrate the destruction and suffering that nuclear weapons introduced. In 1996, the Atomic Bomb Museum in Nagasaki made an attempt to mount an exhibition on Japan's activities in World War II that included an image from the Nanjing massacre.

However, both of these exhibitions were opposed by groups in each country unwilling to accept documented histories that did not correspond to the way they wished to see themselves and their nation portrayed. The exhibition in Washington was shut down, and in Nagasaki the offending picture was removed.

On the other hand, in Germany, early this year, the mayor of Munich opened an exhibition on history that documents massacres by the German army in Eastern Europe during World War II. The exhibit was furiously resisted by German war veterans but the mayor persisted. Now that the exhibition has been touring their country, many German citizens appreciate the light it sheds on an atrocity their government had kept hidden from them.

Let us examine the steps we must follow to make the history of nations a truly global resource. We need to establish institutions adequately shielded from political pressures to collect historical resources and make them publicly available. We need organizations authorized to prevent the distortion of historical information and other potential abuses, and bring out the perspectives on all sides of historical evidence. Of particular value would be an international agency with access to the historical archives of many countries. The means to create such institutions are clearly in your hands as mayors of cities. The political strength to succeed can be provided by the very organization you have already created to foster peace through inter-city solidarity.

Five New Member Cities Join Mayors Conference

Since February 22, 1997, the following five cities have become members of the conference.

Angers (France)
Klaipeda (Lithuania)
Barcelona (Spain)
Waynesville (United States)
Bursa (Turkey)

With the addition of these new members, membership totals 425 cities in 99 countries and regions.

From the Secretariat

● We are very pleased that the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity was brought to a successful close. We wish to express our profound gratitude to all the participants whose cooperation made the smooth running of the conference possible.

● To serve as reference for the future, we await messages giving us your candid opinions and impressions of this 4th conference and any suggestions you might have for our future activities and conferences.

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Mayors Conference Protest Against U.S. Subcritical Nuclear Testing

On September 18, 1997, the United States conducted a second subcritical nuclear test at its test site in Nevada.

The U.S. government insists that the tests are necessary to maintain the safety of nuclear weapons and do not violate the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). However, these tests ignore international public opinion overwhelmingly in favor of the abolition of nuclear weapons. Therefore, on September 19, the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity sent letters of protest to the U.S. acting ambassador to Japan and to President Clinton in the names of the mayors of the executive cities.

September 19, 1997

H.E. Mr. William Jefferson Clinton
The President of the United States of America

Letter of Protest

The Hiroshima-Nagasaki Appeal adopted by the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity held in August of this year included a specific demand that the U.S. immediately halt its subcritical nuclear testing. The fact that you have willfully conducted a second such test is an outrageous betrayal of worldwide public opinion overwhelmingly in favor of the total abolition of nuclear weapons. The 425 cities in 99 countries represented by the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity vehemently protest.

It has been reported that the present series of subcritical tests is designed to maintain existing nuclear weapons. However, these tests, whatever the reason behind them, are in total opposition to the advisory opinion handed down by the International Court of Justice, which stressed the importance of increasing the effort toward nuclear disarmament.

We hereby urgently demand that the United States join the rest of the world on the journey toward nuclear disarmament. We demand that you immediately halt all subcritical nuclear testing, that you work actively for early effectuation of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and clarify a concrete timetable for the elimination of all your nuclear weapons.

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

Takashi Hiraoka	President	Mayor of Hiroshima
Ichio Itoh	Vice-president	Mayor of Nagasaki
Herbert Schmalstieg	Vice-president	Mayor of Hannover
Alberto Botta	Vice-president	Mayor of Como
Yuri Victorovich Chekhov	Vice-president	Mayor of Volgograd
Eberhard Diepgen	Vice-president	Mayor of Berlin
David Campbell	Vice-president	Mayor of Wollongong
Toting Bunye	Vice-president	Mayor of Muntinlupa
Catherine Margate	Vice-president	Mayor of Malakoff