

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity

March 30, 2000 / No.13

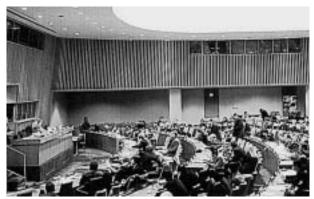
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), a multi-lateral treaty that came into effect in 1970, enjoins the nuclear weapons states to negotiate for nuclear disarmament. It establishes the U.S.A., Russia, U.K., France, and China, the five countries that possessed nuclear weapons in 1967, as the nuclear weapons states and prohibits countries other than these five from developing or possessing nuclear weapons. (At present, 187 countries have joined the Treaty. India, Pakistan, and Israel have not joined the Treaty.)

Article 10 of the NPT calls for a conference 25 years after effectuation to determine whether the Treaty is to be extended indefinitely or for a set length of time. Based on this article, the NPT Review and Extension Conference was held in 1995. At this conference, despite harsh criticism from nonnuclear states against the nuclear weapons states for, among other things, "not sincerely working for nuclear disarmament as stipulated under Article 6 of the NPT" and strong opposition to an indefinite extension, the entire Conference agreed without a vote to an unconditional, indefinite extension. At that time it was arranged to hold a review conference every five years.

Based on that arrangement, the NPT Review Conference will be held from April 24 to May 19 this year at the UN Headquarters in New York.

If we look at the international situation concerning nuclear weapons from the time of the NPT Review and Extension Conference to the present, we see that the nuclear weapons states are not sincerely working towards nuclear disarmament. France and China rushed to conduct nuclear tests before the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) was concluded, and the U.S. and Russia are engaged in subcritical nuclear test one-upsmanship based on the assumption of continued deployment of nuclear weapons. Against this background, India and Pakistan carried out successive nuclear tests in May 1998, greatly shocking the international community and deepening the crisis of nuclear proliferation. These outrages and other developments such as the US Senate's refusal to ratify the CTBT and postponement by the Russian



The PrepCom for the NPT Review Conference

Parliament's Lower House of START II ratification portend an ominous future.

In light of these developments, we expect the NPT Review Conference to greatly impact nuclear disarmament and serve as a pivotal event for turning the 21st century into a "peaceful century without nuclear weapons."

For this reason, the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity will send a delegation to New York to convey the hibakusha message, "Nuclear weapons are an absolute evil," strive to persuade representatives of each national government and the UN of the necessity of inculcating the will to abolish nuclear weapons, collaborate with international disarmament NGOs in lobbying activities and making presentations to major mass media organizations, and engage in other activities to arouse global awareness of the importance of abolishing nuclear weapons. If these activities are to be effective, they must be specific and direct. We intend to utilize the network of the Mayors Conference, which has expanded to 484 cities in 102 countries and regions. For that reason, we have asked the member cities to request their own governments to ratify the NPT on March 15 and to send a message to contribute a message to the "Mayors Conference Member Cities Message Collection." We ask for your enthusiastic cooperation in these efforts to realize a peaceful world without nuclear weapons.



The UN General Assembly adopted 47 resolutions on disarmament and international security on December 1, 1999. Most were adopted without a vote, but supporters and non-supporters were radically divided on the resolutions which concerned nuclear weapons and other important strategic issues.

Each country's vote on the following three such resolutions are shown in the chart below on this page; the proposal of Egypt, South Africa, Sweden, and other countries in the vigorous disarmament group "New Agenda Coalition " to the nuclear powers to " undertake to accomplish the speedy and total elimination " and " engage without delay in an accelerated process of negotiation ", sought by the New Agenda Coalition. The Malaysia Resolution which follows the International Court of Justice advisory opinion, " the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law " proposed by Malaysia; and

"Nuclear disarmament with a view to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons "proposed by Japan.

Voting Results at the UN General Assembly																			
(1) New A (A/54/5 (2) Malay (A/54/5	563-G) sia Resol			Note	Note: The following are voting results for the three resolutions as a whole. Parts of the resolutions were voted on separately. Names of nations are those used by the International Olympic Committee.														
(3) Japan Resolution (A/54/563-D) (1) (2) (3)					Dec. 1, 2000 New Agenda Resolution y:111 n:13 a:39 -:14 Dec. 1, 2000 Malaysia Resolution y:114 n:28 a:22 -:13 Dec. 1, 2000 Japan Resolution y:153 n:0 a:12 -:12										a=Abstain - =Absent				
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AND	, a	, n	y	CRC	y y	y y	y	HUN	y n	, n	y y		y	y	y y	SLE	y y	У У	y y
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ANT	ý	y y	y	CUB	y y	ÿ	, a	INA	y	y	y	MON	, n	, n	y	SMR	y	y	y y
ARG	a	y	ý	CYP	ý	á	y	IRI	ý	ý	y	MOZ	y	y	y y	SOL	ý	y y	y y
ARM	а	a	y	CZE	a	n	y	IRL	ý	ý	ý	MRI	á	ý	a	SRI	ý	y	y
AUS	а	а	y	DEN	a	n	y	ISL	a	n	y	MYA	а	y	а	SUD	ý	ý	y y
AUT	У	а	у	DJI	У	у	у	ISR	n	n	a	NAM	у	y	у	SUR	ý	y	y
AZE	а	а	у	DMA	У	у	у	ΙΤΑ	а	n	У	NCA	ý	y	y	SVK	a	n	y
BAH	У	у	у	DOM	у	у	у	JAM	у	у	у	NED	а	n	у	swz	У	у	у
BAN	У	у	у	ECU	У	у	у	JOR	у	у	У	NEP	у	у	у	SWE	У	у	у
BAR	У	у	у	EGY	У	у	у	JPN	а	а	у	NGR	у	У	у	SYR	У	у	у
BEL	a	n	У	ERI	У	у	у	KEN	у	у	у	NOR	а	а	у	TAN	У	у	у
BEN	У	у	у	ESA	У	у	У	Kiribati	-	-	-	NRU	-	-	-	TGA	-	-	-
BHU	а	у	а	ESP	а	n	у	KOR	а	а	У	NZL	У	У	у	THA	У	у	У
він	а	а	у	EST	n	n	у	KSA	у	у	У	OMA	У	У	у	TJK	У	а	У
BIZ	У	У	у	ETH	У	у	у	KUW	у	у	У	PAK	n	У	а	ткм	-	а	у
BLR	У	а	у	FIJ	У	у	У	KZK	а	а	У	PAN	У	У	У	TOG	У	У	У
BOL	У	У	У	FIN	а	а	У	LAO	У	у	У	PAR	У	У	У	TRI	У	у	У
BOT	У	У	У	FRA	n	n	а	LAT	а	а	У	PER	У	У	У	TUN	У	У	У
BRA	У	У	У	FSM	а	-	У	LBA	У	у	у	PHI	у	у	У	TUR	а	n	у
BRN	У	у	У	GAB		-	-	LES	-	-	-	PLW		-	-	UAE	У	У	У
BRU	У	У	У	GAM	-	-	-	LCA	У	у	у	PNG	у	у	У	UGA	У	У	У
BUL	n	n	У	GBR	n	n	У	LIB	У	у	у	POL	n	n	У	UKR	а	у	У
BUR	У	у	У	GBS	У	у	У		У	а	у	POR	а	n	У	URU	У	У	У
CAM	У	у	У	GEO	а	а	У	LTU	а	n	У	PRK	-	у	а	USA	n	n	У
CAN	а	а	У	GEQ	У	У	У	LUX	а	n	у	QAT	у	у	У	UZB	а	а	У
CGO CHA	У	У	У	GER	a	n	У	MAD	У	У	У	ROM	n	n	У	VEM	У	у	у
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CHI CHN	У	У	у	GRE GRN	a	n	y 	Marshall Island MAS		У	y	RUS RWA	n	n	а	VIN YEM	У	У	у
CIV	a	У	a	GUA	У	У	У	MAS	У	У	у	SAM	-		-		У	У	У
CMR	У	y v	y v	GUI	У	y v	y V	MAW	-	-	-	SEN	y	y v	y	ZIM	У	У	У
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(The Peace Resources Cooperative, Japan / Pacific Campaign for Disarmament and Security)





Protesting US and Russian Subcritical Nuclear Testing

The United States of America conducted the seventh subcritical nuclear test on September 30, the eighth on November 9 last year, the ninth on February 3, and the tenth on March 22 this year. Russia announced on February 4 this year that it has conducted seven subcritical nuclear tests since September 23 last year.

As this testing is in contradiction to the will of people around the world seeking nuclear abolition, the Mayors Conference sent a protest to the two governments under the joint signatures of the mayors of the nine executive cities as follow. (Omitted: Protests to the US against Nuclear Testing dated September 30, November 9, and February 3).

Letter of Protest to the United States

March 23, 2000

February 5, 2000

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton The President of the United States of America

On March 22, the United States conducted a tenth sub-critical nuclear test in its underground testing facility in Nevada. Just last month, US Ambassador Foley visited Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Museum and, after encountering the reality of the atomic bombing, wrote in the guest book: "A moving experience and a demonstration of the need for all nations to work for peace." I am disappointed to learn, one month later, that the US has conducted another test, and I am outraged by your evident determination to cling indefinitely to nuclear weapons. On behalf of the 484 cities in 102 countries and regions that are members of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity, I vehemently protest.

The Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, scheduled to begin next month, will have a tremendous impact on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts as we enter the next century. All nuclear-weapon states should view with alarm recent reversals of the trend toward nuclear disarmament. To avoid provoking further proliferation, they should recall their sworn obligation under Article 6 of the NPT to strive toward disarmament, and they must begin immediately to work actively and positively for the total abolition of all nuclear weapons.

The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity demands that the United States immediately halt all sub-critical nuclear testing and play a central role in establishing the concrete process by which we will eliminate nuclear weapons in the 21st century.

Letter of Protest to Russia

The Honorable Vladimir V. Putin Acting President of the Russian Federation

On February 4, it came to light that the Russian Federation conducted two subcritical nuclear tests on January 8, bringing to seven the total number of such tests since September 23. In December of last year, the UN adopted a series of resolutions related to the abolition of nuclear weapons in an effort to counter recent setbacks to nuclear disarmament. Around the world, increasingly numerous voices are demanding that the nuclear powers take positive steps toward the elimination of nuclear weapons, yet Russia and the United States have abandoned that effort. We are outraged by your repeated subcritical nuclear tests and your betrayal of the international public, which clearly seeks a ban on nuclear weapons. On behalf of the 484 cities in 102 countries and regions that belong to the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity, we vehemently protest.

We are gravely concerned that the attitude displayed by Russia and the United States will be detrimental to the nuclear disarmament efforts of the international community. You have undoubtedly increased distrust among the non-nuclear nations, which could manifest in a new round of nuclear proliferation. In fact, we have recently heard that Iran may have obtained a nuclear weapon, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is threatening to discontinue its freeze on nuclear development.

The Mayor's Conference demands that Russia and the United states listen conscientiously to majority world opinion, immediately halt your subcritical nuclear testing, and take the lead in working to build a world free from nuclear weapons in the 21st century.





Hiroshima and Nagasaki hold A-bomb Exhibitions around the world with the cooperation of local hosting groups. An A-bomb Exhibition called, *Hiroshima/Nagasaki: The Fallout,* was held at the Royal Armouries Museum, in Leeds, United Kingdom, August 14 through October 3, last year, sponsored by the Royal Armouries Museum. Another, entitled, *Toward a World Free from Nuclear Weapons,* was held at the Nizorov National Museum in Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan, August 22 through September 12, sponsored by the Nizorov National Museum and the city of Semipalatinsk. A third, called *Le droit a la Paix (Rights for Peace)* was held at the multipurpose event facility, Batiment de Force des Motrices, in Geneva, Switzerland, October 23 through October 31, sponsored by the city of Geneva.

Survivors of the atomic bombings gave testimonials at the A-bomb Exhibition in Leeds, which was attended by more than a thousand people on the first day alone.

The people in Semipalatinsk, near the Soviet Union's largest nuclear test site, are very concerned because of the heavy impact of radiation exposure on their health. Many people visited the exhibition every day and appeared engrossed.

In Geneva there was an independent exhibition of newspaper articles about the atomic bombing from the Geneva papers just after the bombs were dropped in addition to the photographic panels showing the consequences of the atomic bombing, information about nuclear weapons, and Abombed materials provided by Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This display drew the attention of many visitors.

Cities interested in holding an A-bomb Exhibition should direct their inquiries to the Secretariat.



A-bomb Exhibition at Geneva

Corrections to Newsletter No.12 (New member cities) Belfast, Northampton, Oxford (England) (U.K.) Georgetown (England) (Guyana) We apologize for these errors.

Request Your Cooperation with Questionnaire

The World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity, since it was established in 1982, has been conducting many kinds of activities such as developing a loose world network of cities seeking achievement of peace, holding its general conference, and protest activities against nuclear weapons.

Almost 20 years have passed since its founding, however, and the underlying situation has changed greatly during this period. We need to reform the Mayors Conference' activities to match the age and be highly effective.

The secretariat sent a questionnaire dated March 15 about the activities of the Mayors Conference to all of the participating cities. We urge you to respond in order that we may create an activity strengthening policy reflecting all of your views.

Four New Member Cities Join Mayors Conference

Since August 31, 1999, the following four cities have become members of the organization.

Imphal(India); Banepa (Nepal); Leeds (U.K.); Denver(USA) [City names are listed in alphabetical order of the countries to which they belong.]

Our membership as of March 10, 2000 including these four cities, stands at 484 cities in 102 countries and regions.

Thank You for Peace-related Program Reports

We have received the following reports of peacerelated programs. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude.

• Forli, Italy

International Art Contest for Young People "Education to Peace" (May, 1999)

- Chittagong, Bangladesh (Hiroshima Academy) "Hiroshima-Nagasaki Day" (August 5, 1999)
- Fürth, Germany "Art for Peace" (August 6, 1999)

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity Secretariat

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