Mayors for Peace News Flash (September 2011) No.21

Dear member cities and supporters of Mayors for Peace,

■ The Number of Mayors for Peace Member Cities Reached Over 5,000! Announcement on September 21 – International Day of Peace

Thanks to your invaluable support, as of September 16, 2011, the number of member cities finally reached 5,003 in 151 countries and regions! Thanks to the supporters in each country, 30 cities from Italy, 15 cities from Austria, 14 cities from Cameroon, and 11 cities each from Australia, Belgium and the U.S. joined. A new capital city, Bangkok in Thailand, joined as well. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your efforts in inviting your fellow mayors to join Mayors for Peace to realize a huge municipal network of 5,000.

Please also announce this achievement of the 5,000 memberships of Mayors for Peace in your city on an appropriate occasion on and around September 21 –International Day of Peace. The International Day of Peace Mayors and Citizens Action Kit is available on the 2020 Vision Campaign website below.

▼New members as of September 1(PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2011/newmembers1109_en.pdf.

▼New members as of September 16:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2011/110916_5000cities/index.html.

▼Mayor Matsui's comments:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2011/110916_5000cities/mayor_comment.html.

▼Related Story (2020 Vision Campaign website)

International Day of Peace Mayors and Citizens Action Kit:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/goal-5000-members.html

■Mayor Kang joins Mayors for Peace while in custody

[Jeju Island, South Korea, August 28]

Mr. Kang Dong-Kyun, Mayor of Gangjeong, South Korea signed the Mayors for Peace membership registration-form while in police custody. Mayor Kang has been on the forefront of non-violent protests against plans to establish a new naval base in his village. Jeju Island means Peace Island. The new member of Mayors for Peace appeals to international solidarity: "I want to embody the spirit of Jeju as the Peace Island during the struggle".

▼Related Story (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/4cf6da5e89/south-korean-mayor-kang-joins-mayors.htm <u>1</u>.

The Financial Contributions from Member Cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign Update for August 2011 [Ypres, Belgium]

The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 7cities in 4 countries this August, coming to a total of \in 2.727,65. Significant donations were made by our member cities in Belgium, Germany and Italy. We are pleased that we also received a contribution from Bosnia and Herzegovina. We would like to extend our gratitude to our member cities for this generosity in supporting our efforts to realize a nuclear-weapon-free world by 2020.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/members/contributors/artikel/bd3e7a35a5/contributions-update-augus t-2011.html.

▼List of cities that made contributions in August:

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_A ugust_2011.pdf.

■Appointment of 2020 Vision Campaigners in Argentina, Colombia and the Netherlands [Ypres, Belgium, September 7]

We are very happy to announce that the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign Association has appointed Mr. Benedict Winnubst and Mr. Bert Sweerts as 2020 Vision Campaigners in the Netherlands, Ms. Micaela Mezzadra as a 2020 Vision Campaigner in Argentina and Ms. Bibiana Ángel González as a 2020 Vision Campaigner in Colombia and Argentina. The past year the association has appointed a total of twenty-three 2020 Vision Campaigners around the world: Argentina (2); Austria (1); Brazil (1); Colombia (1); Germany (2); Greece (1); Haiti (1); Italy (1); Iran (1); Mexico (1); Netherlands (2); Norway (2); Peru (1); Senegal (1); Sweden (1); Turkey (1); UK (2) and USA (1). Many of the 2020Vision Campaigners played a key role in the drive to reach 5000 members. We greatly appreciate their invaluable efforts.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/e195df2b3c/appointment-of-2020-vision-campaigne-2.html.

Mayors for Peace forges plans in Mexico City

[Mexico City, September 13]

New developments were discussed over a couple of days to establish Mayors for Peace in Mexico. Meetings involved the international relations department of the City of Mexico, AALMAC (Association of Local Authorities of Mexico), Ambassador Ubeda, Secretary General of OPANAL, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Mexican ICLEI branch office. Confronted with the perceived distant threat of nuclear weapons the participants discussed the importance of including the Mexican security issues in the work of Mayors for Peace, while continuing education on the truly global nature of the nuclear threat, not least to Mexico. ▼Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/76e2eceee7/mayors-for-peace-forges-plans-in-mex.html.

Newly arrived information on "Member Cities' Activities" Webpage

New information from three member cities is available at "Member Cities' Activities" page on our website. The mayor of Mazzarino, Italy, shared his initiative in hosting unaccompanied children asylum seekers in his city as a clear example of peaceful coexistence. While from Rhodes, Greece, the 4th International Anti Nuclear Festival of Rhodes was held from September 12 to 21. Also from Manchester, UK, the Manchester Peace Festival is held from September 17 to 25.

If you wish to introduce the peace related activities of your city, we can create a link to your city's website or the website of the peace event. Please send the name/title of the activity along with the link to the address below.

▼Email: <u>mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp</u>

▼To see the "Member Cities' Activities" webpage, click the link below: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/activities/index.html.

Cities Are Not Targets! (CANT) Petition Drive Continues

Thanks to your invaluable support, the total number of the signatures collected for our grass-roots petition drive, "Cities Are Not Targets! (CANT)", since February 2007 has reached 1.12 million. Mayors for Peace launched a new version of the CANT petition drive last December, focusing on a nuclear weapons convention and clearly setting a time framework for abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020. We would appreciate your continued support.

▼ Petition form (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/petitionform_en.pdf.

▼Online petition:

https://www.ssl-hiroins.city.hiroshima.jp/pcf/en/form.htm.

If you have any comments, questions, or would like to unsubscribe or change your contact information, please contact us at: Mayors for Peace Secretariat

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