Mayors for Peace News Flash (December 2011) No.24

Dear member cities and supporters of Mayors for Peace,

Thank you for your ongoing support for the activities of Mayors for Peace.

Please find below news related to the most recent activities of Mayors for Peace.

If your city has any news it wishes to share with others, please feel free to contact us!

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■The 8th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace – major items decided

[Granollers, Spain]

During the two-day conference on November 9 and 10, participants including 11 executive cities, 4 observing cities and 4 associations of local governments discussed future plans of Mayors for Peace.

Major items decided during the Executive Conference are: (1) Develop a global grassroots petition drive conducted by all member cities calling for negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention. (2) Issue letters of request and/or statements calling for a world free from nuclear weapons. (3) Commemorate the 5000-city milestone with a new poster exhibit available to all our member cities. (4) Invite disarmament ambassadors to join mayors, UN officials, parliamentarians and NGO representatives at the Mayors for Peace General Conference in Hiroshima in August 2013. (5) Identify and appoint celebrities and other opinion leaders who support the 2020 Vision to serve as 2020 Vision Ambassadors

Furthermore, the participants exchanged opinions regarding such issues as holding Executive Conferences in Hiroshima or Nagasaki, managing the cost of Mayors for Peace, and establishing national and regional chapters: roles and responsibilities.

Hereafter, especially to strengthen the financial base, an international committee of representatives from existing secretariats and member cities will be set up and the initial meeting will be held in Hannover.

▼Full article:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/topic/2011/111109 executive conf/index.html.

▼ Related story (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/8033bdff96/mayors-for-peace-summit-in-spain-rea.html.

<<The Resolution and the Final Communiqué>>

The Resolution towards the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons and the Final Communiqué were adopted during the conference. We will promote our activities based on the plans stated in this resolution and the final communiqué. We would appreciate your perusal and participation in our new activities.

▼ Resolution towards the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/directors/8th/resolution.pdf.

▼ Final Communiqué (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/directors/8th/communique.pdf.

▼ If you cannot download the files, please contact us by email to: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ General and Board of Directors Meeting of the 2020 Vision Campaign Association [Granollers, Spain]

On November 8, the General and Board of Directors Meeting of the 2020 Vision Campaign Association was held in conjunction with the 8th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace. Future plans of the 2020 Vision Campaign were discussed. The campaign action plan endorses the announcement of Mayor Matsui from August 6 in Hiroshima, when he declared that: "We plan to host an international conference that will bring the world's policymakers to Hiroshima to discuss the nuclear non-proliferation regime."

The participants recognized the important contributions made by the 2020 Vision Campaigners, who now total 24 civil society activists in 21 countries, and decided to further expand this network of 2020 Vision Campaigners and to invite them to participate in the future meetings of the campaign.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/8033bdff96/mayors-for-peace-summit-in-spain-rea.html.

■ The results of Mayors for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean Survey announced [Granollers, Spain]

On November 9, the results of a survey conducted with member cities in Latin America and the Caribbean were presented during the Executive Conference. In a presentation made by Mr. Claudio Maffei, Mayor of Porto Feliz (SP, Brazil) and vice-president of FNP, and Pol Heanna, International Development Director of the 2020 Vision Campaign, the Latin American perspective was explored on topics concerning the 2020 Vision Campaign and their local security threats.

▼Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/3c3c281745/mayors-for-peace-latin-american-surv.html.

■Mayors for Peace welcomes the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement call for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World [Geneva, Switzerland]

Mayors for Peace welcomes the resolution "Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons" adopted on November 26 by the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Regarding the resolution of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Aaron Tovish, International Director of the 2020 Vision Campaign of Mayors for Peace said: "The resolution is crystal clear that it is the responsibility of all states to ensure that there are no more Hiroshimas or Nagasakis." The Council of Delegates also appealed for negotiations on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, calling on the ICRC to engage in "continuous dialogue with governments and other relevant actors" to that end. The 2020 Vision Campaign of Mayors for Peace also calls for such negotiations, and stands ready to take part in this vital dialogue.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/99b7c8c0b2/-0d56d61e30.html.

▼ICRC Council of Delegates 2011: Resolution 1"Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons" http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/resolution/council-delegates-resolution-1-2011.htm.

■ The Financial Contributions from Member Cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign

- Update for November 2011 [Ypres, Belgium]

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The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 7 cities in 5 countries this November, coming to a total of 6.125 Euro. It is noteworthy that the most considerable contribution during this period was made by Hannover, Germany (3.500 Euro).

Significant donations were made by our member cities in Belgium, Croatia, Italy and Spain. 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/da8eb6c94a/contributions-update-november-2011.html

▼List of cities that made contributions in November:

 $\underline{http://www.2020vision campaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_November_2011.}\\ pdf.$

■ Newly arrived information on "Member Cities' Activities" Webpage

New information available is from Musashino city in Japan about the Legislation of Ordinance for Musashino City Peace Day and the commemorative event on November 24, the day Musashino was airraided in 1944 (in Japanese language only).

Please visit the "Member Cities' Activities" page on our website and get an idea for your city's peace activities. << Please Send Information on Your City's Peace Activities >>

Let us also 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 to: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp
- ▼ To see the "Member Cities' Activities" webpage, click the link below: http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/activities/index.html.

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities – 5,092 cities in 152 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, as of December 1, 2011, the number of member cities reached 5,092, with 39 new members. Juba, capital city of the new country of South Sudan joined, and our membership expanded to 152 countries/regions. As a result of sending a recruitment letter to all non-member municipalities in Japan in October, 27 municipalities joined in Japan. Thanks to the continued efforts of the supporters, 5 cities from Austria, and 6 cities from Italy joined during the month. As our recruitment drive will continue, we would be most grateful if you could invite your fellow mayors who are not yet members to join us.

▼Related information (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2011/newmembers1112_en.pdf.

■ Petition Asking for a Nuclear Weapons Convention

The most effective way to abolish all nuclear weapons by 2020 is a nuclear weapons convention. A nuclear weapons convention will prohibit the acquisition, development, possession, deployment and use of nuclear weapons and all related activities. Mayors for Peace launched a new version of the petition drive in December 2010, focusing on a nuclear weapons convention and clearly setting a timeframe for the 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.

<< Mayors for Peace Secretariat will be closed for 6 days from December 29 to January 3 for the new year holidays>>

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

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