Mayors for Peace News Flash (January 2012) No.25

Dear member cities and supporters of Mayors for Peace,

Happy New Year 2012!

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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■ Protest against nuclear tests conducted by U.S.A

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On January 6 and 10, the executive cities of Mayors for Peace sent a letter of protest to the United States and the U.S. Embassy in Japan respectively against a nuclear test conducted sometime between July and September 2011 and against another test conducted in November 2011, on behalf of our 5,111 member cities in 153 countries and regions.

▼Full text of the Letter of Protest (PDF):

[The Letter sent on January 6] http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/protest/120106_en.pdf. [The Letter sent on January 10] http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/activities/protest/120110 en.pdf.

■Shortly after the urgings of Mayors for Peace, Indonesia ratifies the CTBT

On December 6, 2011, the world took a step closer to that goal when the Indonesian Parliament ratified the Comprehensive (nuclear) Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Mayors for Peace can claim a small role in this development as in November it sent two letters to the chairman of "First Commission", the parliamentary committee handling ratification. The first letter from the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was quickly followed by a letter from the Executive Conference. While over 150 countries have ratified the CTBT and over 180 support its verification arm, the CTBT Organization, the Treaty has a very stringent entry-into-force requirement: all 44 nations that have nuclear reactors must ratify it. Counting Indonesia, 36 of them have now done so.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/5eb0d73a32/shortly-after-the-urgings-of-mayors.html.

■2020 Vision Campaign welcomes CELAC's call for a high-level conference to achieve total nuclear disarmament, and also welcomes the Mayor of San Borja (Peru) for Associate Membership [Caracas (Venezuela), December 3, 2011]

The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), newly established regional bloc by leaders from 33 countries in Latin American and Caribbean, called for nuclear disarmament in one of its declarations, which includes a call for the convening of a high-level conference to identify ways and methods to eliminate nuclear weapons as soon as possible.

The 2020 Vision Campaign welcomes this intention of CELAC and also welcomed the Mayor of San Borja (Peru), who became part of the international leadership of the network as Associate Member, joining a growing group of Latin American Mayors spearheading the 2020 Vision Campaign in the region.

▼ Full article (2020 Vision Campaign website):

http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/artikel/4f5f9f3bb8/celac-wants-high-level-conference-to.html.

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

- Update for December 2011 [Ypres, Belgium]

The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 7 cities in 4 countries this December, coming to a total of 2.616,29 Euro. Significant donations were made by our member cities in Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Switzerland. 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/813ce8db53/-6d1a5800f9.html.

▼List of cities that made contributions in November:

 $\underline{http://www.2020vision campaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_December_2011.}\\ \underline{pdf}.$

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

New information from three cities in Japan is now available.

Yaizu City has been calling for the third Yaizu Peace Award Nominee Recommendation by March 15 (English information is available).

Obihiro City has created and distributed the 2012 Peace Calendar.

In Kusatsu City, a peace bell was set up at Rokuha Park and unveiled on December 8.

(Details of information from Obihiro and Kusatsu are available only in Japanese.)

Please visit the "Member Cities' Activities" page on our website and get an idea for your city's peace activities.

▼ To see the "Member Cities' Activities" webpage, click the link below:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/activities/index.html.

<< 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.

We need comprehensive information including the date, venue, organizers and details of the event.

Thank you for your cooperation.

▼ Please send the name/title of the activity along with the link to the address to: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ Mayors for Peace Member Cities – 5,111 cities in 153 countries/regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, as of January 1, the number of member cities reached 5,111, with 19 new members. Djibouti, the capital city of Djibouti, joined as the first member city in the country, and our membership expanded to 153 countries/regions. The results from sending a recruitment letter in October continue, and 11 municipalities joined in Japan. Thanks to the continued efforts of the supporter in Austria, 2 cities from Austria joined during the month. It is 6 months in a row that cities from Austria have joined.

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/2012/newmembers1201 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.

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

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