

## Mayors for Peace News Flash (May 2012) No.29

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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### ■Mayors for Peace delegates' activities at the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference [Vienna, Austria, May 2-4]

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Fifty five Mayors for Peace delegates participated in the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference, which took place in Vienna from April 30 to May 11, 2012.

Vice-president of Mayors for Peace, Mayor Tomihisa Taue from Nagasaki city delivered a speech at the NGO session on May 2. He spoke of inhumanity of nuclear weapons and urged the government representatives to make additional efforts to conclude a Nuclear Weapons Convention, as well as to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Northeast Asia, and so on.

Mayors for Peace held the Workshop under the theme of 'Nuclear Weapons Abolition: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Japan—their roles and cooperation with NGOs' on May 4, in which President Kazumi Matsui from Hiroshima city, Vice-president Taue, Ambassador of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament, Mr. Mari Amano, and Co-leader of Peace Boat, Mr. Akira Kawasaki made their speeches. President Matsui emphasized the importance of sharing the experiences and the voices of the A-bomb survivors with people all over the world, and the absolute evil of nuclear weapons, which should not exist. He also said that we would promote further expansion of the membership of Mayors for Peace and pursue more actively the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.

On the same day, President Matsui invited Mr. Peter Woolcott, chairman of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference, to our 5,000-Member Milestone Poster Exhibition site at Vienna International Center, and handed him a certificate of approximately 480,000 signatures requesting the start of negotiations for a Nuclear Weapons Convention. The poster exhibition was also held at Vienna City Hall.

Mayors for Peace delegates had spoke with representatives of 17 governments including Germany, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Finland, Italy, US, Mexico, China, New Zealand, Brazil, Ukraine, Iran, Sweden, Ireland, Norway. We also met with representatives of international organizations to request support for our activities.

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### ■Meeting on measures to strengthen the foundation of Mayors for Peace operations [Vienna, Austria, May 5]

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Mayors for Peace delegates held a meeting in Vienna on May 5 in which measures to strengthen the foundation for Mayors for Peace operations were discussed. This meeting, attended by President Matsui, Vice-president Taue, and about 20 executive members, addressed the promotion of regional chapters and ways to share operating costs. At this meeting, we confirmed the need to decentralize Mayors for Peace while developing a system that will allow our member cities to contribute to operating costs. The discussion was oriented towards how to share costs. We will have

further discussion about these topics at a working-level meeting in Ieper, Belgium in early July, with a final draft to be proposed at the General Meeting in Hiroshima in August 2013.

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## ■Progress Report 2012

[Ypres, Belgium]

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The annual Progress Report for 2012 featuring a report on 2011 and plans for 2012 was issued by the Secretariat of Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign. The financial statement was highly praised at the meeting in Vienna on May 5 for maintaining a surplus despite some decrease in income.

▼Related Information:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/home/progress-report.html>

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## ■New poster exhibit commemorates 5,000-city milestone [Download ready]

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To commemorate the 5,000-city milestone, please hold a new poster exhibit in your municipality sometime in August 2012!

By holding these exhibits in as many cities as possible, we hope to directly inform millions of citizens regarding the impact of nuclear war, including the fact that even a limited war would cause catastrophic climate change resulting in global famine, and the role city leaders strive to play. Please do hold an exhibition and bring this problem to the attention of people in your city.

The posters are now available to download from the Mayors for Peace website. For detailed information, please refer to the instructions for downloading the posters in "The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki -The 5,000-Member Milestone Exhibition,-" a document forwarded to our member cities.

>>Posters: A2 size (approximately 24 by 36 inches); 19 posters.

>>This poster exhibit was created based on a mandate from the 8th Executive Conference held in Granollers, Spain last November.

The first poster exhibitions were held in Vienna International Center and Vienna City Hall during the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference, as mentioned above. Please be sure your city joins this movement.

▼Related Information:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/campaign/projects/poster/index.html>

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## ■Please support the petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention

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The next step in abolishing all nuclear weapons by 2020 is to negotiate a nuclear weapons convention.

A nuclear weapons convention will prohibit the acquisition, development, possession, deployment and use of nuclear weapons and all related activities.

At our Executive Conference in Granollers, Spain in November 2011, we agreed to promote a global grassroots petition drive through which all member cities can call for an immediate start to negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention.

On behalf of Mayors for Peace, President Kazumi Matsui handed a certificate representing 478,303 signatures collected by April 30 to Mr. Peter Woolcott, chairman of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 NPT Review Conference in May 2012 in Vienna, Austria, as mentioned above.

We will continue collecting of signatures until 2015 and present them to the UN at appropriate times.

Please promote this petition drive in your city. For example, the City of Hiroshima set up petition booths in the lobbies of City Hall and other municipal offices on April 2, and we collect signatures at the venues of events organized by the city. Please let us know how your city is working on this petition drive so we can tell others.

Let's gather millions of signatures and make our voices heard. (The petition is available for printing or online at the links below.)

▼Petition form (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/petitionform\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/petitionform_en.pdf).

▼Online petition:

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

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**■ Financial contributions from member cities to the 2020 Vision Campaign**  
**- Update for April 2012 [Ypres, Belgium]**  
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The 2020 Vision Campaign received donations from 13 cities in 4 countries during the month of April coming to a total of 4.830,37 Euro.

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/0d3d8e6d76/contributions-update-April-2012.html>.

▼ List of cities that made contributions in April:

[http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions\\_April\\_2012.pdf](http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/fileadmin/user_upload/2020VC/Members/Contributors/Contributions_April_2012.pdf).

▼ How to make contributions:

<http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/en/members/contribute-to-mayors-for-peace.html>.

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**■ Member City Activities**  
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Please visit the “Member City Activities” page on our website to get ideas to implement in your city.  
The URL of this page has been changed.

▼ To see the “Member City Activities” webpage, click the link below:

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

<<Please Send Information on Your City’s Peace Activities >>

Please help us tell others about what you are doing!

We can create a link to your city’s website or the website of your peace event.

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

We will be glad to help you advertise.

▼ Please send the name/title of the activity along with the link to: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

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**■ Mayors for Peace member cities – 5,238 cities in 153 countries/regions**  
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Thanks to your invaluable support, as of May 1, the number of member cities increased by 17 to 5,238.

As a result of sending a recruitment letter to all non-member cities/municipalities in Japan in February, 7 cities from Japan joined.

After a recruitment drive at the FLACMA conference, 7 cities from Chile joined.

Our recruitment drive continues! Please invite your fellow mayors to join.

▼ Related information (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2012/newmembers1205\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/2012/newmembers1205_en.pdf).

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**If you have any comments, questions, or would like to unsubscribe  
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