## **Mayors for Peace**



## **Secretariat**

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Excellency,

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits.

Since its establishment in 1982, Mayors for Peace has cooperated with other cities of the world to appeal for the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace. Now the organization has grown to 5,664 member cities from 157 countries and regions, representing one billion people, or a seventh of the world's population. Behind this continued growth of member cities and the support of a great number of mayors for our initiatives lies the fact that many citizens of the world share Hiroshima and Nagasaki's wish—they strongly desire a nuclear-weapon-free world, and regard those weapons as the most inhumane of any ever developed.

At the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference this April, 80 countries supported the Joint Statement on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. As such, the momentum to highlight the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and to outlaw them has been accelerating in our global society.

In this context, I believe that the High-level meeting of the UN General Assembly on nuclear disarmament on September 26, the holding of which was decided by overwhelming majority at the General Assembly last year, will be a very important opportunity to exert influence on the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation movement towards total abolition of nuclear weapons. Furthermore, leading up to the High-level meeting, open-ended working groups were held in May and June in Geneva, Switzerland, with one more being planned for August.

Consequently, in order to bolster the movement to realize a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, I would like you to attend the High-level meeting as well as encouraging your officials to attend the working group.

I humbly ask for your commitment towards the earliest possible realization of a world without nuclear weapons.

Sincerely yours,

MATSUI Kazumi Mayor of Hiroshima

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President of Mayors for Peace