



# Mayors for Peace Newsletter

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## Visit to Vienna during the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 NPT Review Conference (May 2012)



Mayor Matsui, President of Mayors for Peace, submitting signatures collected in the petition drive calling for a nuclear weapons convention to Chairman Peter Woolcott of the NPT PrepCom

In May 2012, Mayors for Peace delegates (32 people from 13 cities in 9 countries) participated in the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 NPT Review Conference, which took place in Vienna, Austria. Speaking at the NGO session, holding a workshop, and talking informally with ambassadors and UN officials, the delegates communicated messages from Hiroshima and Nagasaki, requesting greater efforts for the abolition of nuclear weapons. They also requested support for Mayors for Peace activities and invited the NPT Review Conference to Hiroshima.

Our 5,000-Member Milestone Poster Exhibition was displayed at Vienna International Center and Vienna City Hall, and signatures collected in the petition drive calling for a nuclear weapons convention were submitted to the chairman of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting (PrepCom) for the NPT Review Conference.

### The NGO session (May 2)

Mayor Taue of Nagasaki delivered a speech at the NGO session of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the 2015 NPT Review Conference. Urging government representatives to “listen to their [A-bomb survivors] stories and take to heart the cruel inhumanity of these weapons,” he asked them to make greater effort to achieve agreement on a nuclear weapons convention and nuclear-weapon-free zones in various parts of the world.



### Mayors for Peace Workshop (May 4)

Mayors for Peace held a workshop entitled “Nuclear Weapons Abolition: Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Japan – their roles and cooperation with NGOs.” Mayor Matsui emphasized the importance of sharing around the world the experiences of the A-bomb survivors and their message that nuclear weapons are an absolute evil that should not exist. He also said that he would promote further growth of the membership of Mayors for Peace and pursue ever more aggressively the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020. He added that conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention is the most



effective way to abolish nuclear weapons.

Mayor Taue of Nagasaki, Mr. Mari Amano, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Head of the Delegation of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament, and NGO representatives also made speeches describing their roles.

### Submission of signatures calling for a nuclear weapons convention (May 4)

During the opening ceremony for the poster exhibit in Vienna International Center, Mayor Matsui submitted signatures on the Mayors for Peace petition calling for a nuclear weapons convention. He presented a certificate representing the total of 478,303 signatures collected to date to Ambassador Peter Woolcott, chairman of the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference. Mayor Matsui conveyed the fervent wish for nuclear abolition represented by each signature and asked the Ambassador to make every effort toward an immediate start to concrete negotiations on the nuclear weapons convention. Mr. Woolcott praised the activities of Mayors for Peace and personally signed the petition.

(Photo: above left)

### 2020 Vision Campaign Association General Meeting (May 5)

At the meeting, the participants agreed to proceed with the following Mayors for Peace activities:

1. Promote further expansion of the membership of Mayors for Peace and enhance local activities in member cities and regions.

2. Appeal to the UN by attending international conferences, such as those related to NPT Review Conferences, and by submitting petition signatures.
3. Appeal to individual nations according to their situations.

They also confirmed the importance of keeping a citizen perspective and cooperating with NGOs to implement the above mentioned activities.



At the same time, to strengthen the organizational foundations of Mayors for Peace, further discussion on such topics as how to share operational costs and the establishment of membership regional groups is planned and a proposal will be submitted to the General Conference in August 2013.

**Other Activities in Vienna**

Mayors for Peace delegates met the ambassadors of Norway and Sri Lanka stationed in Vienna, as well as the executive secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), and asked for their support for Mayors for Peace activities toward the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020. The ambassador of Sri Lanka signed the petition for a nuclear weapons convention during the meeting.



**Meeting with Ambassador Tibor Toth, executive secretary of the CTBTO**

The delegates also met with Ambassador Douglas Roche, chairman emeritus of Middle Powers Initiative (MPI) and Dr. Tilman Ruff, chairman of International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) and exchanged opinions on future collaboration possibilities.

At Vienna City Hall, the Mayors for Peace Poster Exhibition commemorating the 5,000-city milestone was held. Mayor Taue of Nagasaki attended the opening ceremony. Mr.



Leeper, chairman of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, introduced the Green Legacy Hiroshima project and presented seeds of A-bomb survivor trees, to the representative of the Vienna City Council.

**Mayor Taue of Nagasaki meets with the president of the Republic of Croatia (April 30)**

Before visiting Vienna, Mayor Taue of Nagasaki visited Zagreb, capital of Croatia, and met with President Ivo Josipovic. They exchanged opinions on the abolition of nuclear weapons, and Mayor Taue asked for cooperation in expanding Mayors for Peace membership in Croatia. He also requested the president to encourage Croatian cities to hold 5000-Member Milestone Poster Exhibition and to support the petition calling for a nuclear weapons convention.



**The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki -The 5000-Member Milestone Exhibition-**

This exhibition started at the Vienna International Center building and at the Vienna City Hall in May 2012 along with the first Preparatory Committee Mayor Matsui speaking at an official opening ceremony for the poster exhibit in Vienna International Center



**Mayor Matsui speaking at an official opening ceremony for the poster exhibit in Vienna International Center**

As of April 1st, 2013, more than 250 cities around the world have held the poster exhibition. Thanks to the translation by executive cities and other supporters, the posters are available in Spanish, Catalan, English, French, Dutch, German, Russian and Japanese.



**Poster exhibition in Hiroshima, August 6, 2012**

**Meeting to strengthen the foundation for Mayors for Peace management [Frogn, Norway, July 2012]**

On July 2 and 3, 2012, a meeting to strengthen the foundation for Mayors for Peace management was held in Frogn, Norway. The working-level participants from executive cities confirmed that all member cities will be asked to affirm their support for Mayors for Peace by paying a nominal (JPY2,000 a year) membership fee. It was also confirmed that regional leader cities would be recruited to form local chapters to promote independent regional activities.



**Event Commemorating "International Day of Peace" [September 21, 2012]**



**Event in Hiroshima**

The United Nations has called for suspending hostile activities on International Day of Peace, September 21, as a global day of ceasefire and non-violence. In support of the aim of the day, an event commemorating this day was held to pray for peace, and to observe one minute of silence in our member cities around the world, such as Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Kashiba, Matsue and Tokaimura of Japan; Kabul, Afghanistan; Auckland, New Zealand; Nairobi, Kenya; Theewaterskloof, South Africa; Dublin, Ireland; Bagheria, Italy; Amsterdam, Netherlands; Geneva, Switzerland; Manchester, UK; Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg of Canada; Albany, Ashland, Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia of USA and Campo Grande, Brazil.



## Member City Activities (March 2012-March 2013)

Member cities around the world are making efforts for peace. Here are some examples reported to the Secretariat.

- **Nishinomiya, Japan:** Peace Projects (April 2011 to March 2012)
- **Wellington, New Zealand:** The 30th Anniversary of Nuclear Weapon Free Declaration (April 14)
- **Hannover, Germany:**
  - "Fly the Flag" initiative to raise awareness for peace and solidarity by member cities in Germany (July 8 and 9);
  - The German Mayors for Peace annual meeting (November 21)
- **Manchester, United Kingdom:**
  - Hiroshima-Nagasaki exhibition on display during the London Olympics in Dublin, London, and Newcastle (July 15 to August 30);
  - Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings 67th Anniversary Commemoration (August 9);
  - 2012 Manchester Peace Festival (September 21 to October 6)
- **Kawaguchi, Japan:** Peace Exhibition (July 21 to 25)
- **Oyama, Japan:** The Peace Exhibition 2012 commemorating the 20th anniversary of Peace City Declaration (July 25 to 31)
- **Fuchu, Japan:** Peace Promotion Projects 2012 (July 31 to August 6, and August 17 to 30)
- **Oita, Japan:** The 29th Mutchan Peace Festival (August 2, 2012)
- **Montreal, Canada:** The International Day of Peace celebration ("Minute of Silence – Moment of Peace" ceremony) (September 21)
- **Misato, Japan:** Peace Session in Misato (September 30)
- **Kusatsu, Japan:** A Kusatsu city peaceful prayer forum (October 13)
- **Kuki, Japan:** Declared "the city of peace, respect for human dignity" Kuki (December 21)
- **Rivas Vaciamadrid, Spain:** Videoconference with a survivor of the atomic bombing in Nagasaki (January 29)

## Frogn, Norway appointed as a new Executive City!

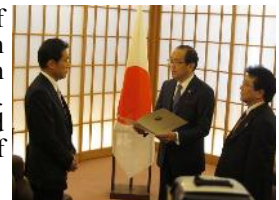
[November 5, 2012]

Frogn, Norway was newly appointed as one of the Mayors for Peace executive cities. Now we have 19 executive cities.

Frogn is active in our campaign not only in the North European region, but also at a global level.

## Letter of Request for promotion of actions for the early realization of a "Nuclear Weapons Convention" was submitted to the Japanese government [Tokyo, Japan, February 1, 2013]

On February 1st, Mayor Matsui of Hiroshima and Mr. Tokumitsu, Tokyo Office manager of the City of Nagasaki representing Japanese member cities of Mayors for Peace met with Foreign Minister Kishida and submitted a Letter of Request to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in reference to promotion to address the early realization of a "Nuclear Weapons Convention". Minister Kishida said "We would like to address the issue in an effort to realize a world without nuclear weapons carrying out coordination with you all with acknowledgement of every contribution of Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Mayors for Peace".



## International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons [Oslo, Norway, March 4-5, 2013]

The Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs hosted the International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons. Mayor Thore Vestby of Frogn, Norway, officially represented Mayors for Peace delegates. Before the Conference, Mayors for Peace delegates also participated in the Civil Society Humanitarian Summit organized by the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) held on March 2-3. The serious fact were indicated in both opportunities that the use of nuclear weapons has global environmental impact and human kind can be annihilated by a nuclear war.

Mayors for Peace delegates distributed the participants outline of the A-bomb damages in Hiroshima-Nagasaki as well as our petition form calling for a nuclear-weapons convention.



## The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace in Hiroshima, August 2013

Mayors for Peace will hold the 8th General Conference in Hiroshima in August 2013. We will discuss and resolve the plans of our future initiatives toward the elimination of nuclear weapons by 2020 and possible measures to strengthen the management of our organization, and adopt a Hiroshima Appeal. We welcome your attendance.

### Outline of the 8th General Conference

**Dates:** August 3 (Sat.) to 6 (Tue.), 2013

**Venue:** International Conference Center Hiroshima

**Sponsored by:** Mayors for Peace, The City of Hiroshima, Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation

**Keynote Theme:** Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons – Conveying the "Spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" to the World – (tentative title)

For details and registration, please visit our website at: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/index.html>

**Recent Developments (March 2012 — March 2013)**

- \* Mar. 1, 2012: Malakoff (France) representative spoke on behalf of Mayors for Peace at a conference of the Association Internationales des Maires Francophones (AIMF). [Brussels, Belgium]
- \* Mar. 17: European delegation of Mayors for Peace including mayors of Ypres (Belgium), Biograd na Moru (Croatia) and Frogn (Norway) attended a conference organized by the governor of the East Kazakhstan Region. [Kurchatov, Kazakhstan]
- \* Mar 20: Executive Bureau of the Federation of Latin American and Caribbean Cities, Municipalities and Local government associations (FLACMA) approved a Mayors for Peace motion. [Santiago de Chile]
- \* Mar. 29: UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Working Group meeting held. [Manchester, UK]
- \* Apr. 30: The Mayor of Nagasaki met with the president of the Republic of Croatia. [Zagreb, Croatia]
- \* May 2-4: Mayors for Peace delegates participated in the first Preparatory Committee Meeting for the NPT Review Conference. [Vienna, Austria]
- \* May 5: Meeting to strengthen the foundation of Mayors for Peace operations held. [Vienna, Austria]
- \* Jun. 16: The U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously adopted a strong, comprehensive, new Mayors for Peace resolution. [Orlando , U.S.]
- \* Jul. 2-3: Meeting to strengthen the foundation for Mayors for Peace management held. [Frogn, Norway]
- \* Aug. 6: Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony /Peace Declaration of the mayor of Hiroshima
- \* Aug. 9: Nagasaki Peace Ceremony/ Peace Declaration of the mayor of Nagasaki
- \* Sep. 1: First member city from Madagascar joined; membership expanded to 154 countries/regions.
- \* Sep. 19 and 24: Protest against the new type of nuclear tests conducted by the U.S. sometime between April and June and in August.
- \* Sep. 21: Event Commemorating “International Day of Peace” held in member cities around the world.
- \* Sep.28-Oct.1 U.N. Disarmament Fellows visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- \* Oct. 1: First member city from Somalia joined; membership expanded to 155 countries/regions.
- \* Oct.19: General Assembly of French Mayors for Peace held. [Paris, France]
- \* Nov.5: Frogn, Norway became a new executive city.
- \* Nov.21: German Mayors for Peace Annual Meeting held. [Bonn, Germany]
- \* Dec.7: Protest against a subcritical nuclear test conducted by the U.S. on December 5.
- \* Jan.1, 2013: First member city from Kosovo joined; membership expanded to 156 countries/regions.
- \* Jan. 17-18: The second Japanese member cities meeting held. [Nagasaki, Japan]
- \* Feb. 12: Protest against nuclear test conducted by DPRK.
- \* Feb. 18: Letter of Request for promotion of actions for the early realization of a “Nuclear Weapons Convention” was submitted to the Japanese government.
- \* Feb.18: UK and Ireland Mayors for Peace Working Group Meeting held. [London, UK]
- \* Mar. 4-5: Mayors for Peace delegates headed by the mayor of Frogn participated in the International Conference on Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear weapons. [Oslo, Norway]
- \* Mar. 12: Protest against two tests involving plutonium conducted on the Z-Machine by the U.S. sometime between October and December 2012.

**The petition drive for a nuclear weapons convention: 724,582 signatures (As of April 1, 2013)**  
**Let's gather millions of signatures and make our voices heard!**

**Mayors for Peace Member Cities**  
**5,587 member cities in 156 countries and regions**

Thanks to your tremendous support, the number of Mayors for Peace member cities reached 5,587 cities in 156 countries and regions as of April 1, 2013.

Antsirabe (Madagascar), Mogadishu (Somalia) and Vushtrri (Kosovo) became the first Mayors for Peace members for these countries. This expands our membership to 156 countries and regions.

We would appreciate your continued assistance with inviting mayors who are not yet members to join our network.

**Member Cities by Area (as of April 1, 2013)**

Area	Cities / Municipalities	Countries / Regions
Asia	1,755	30
Oceania	127	9
Africa	340	44
Europe	2,450	46
North America	295	3
Latin America and the Caribbean	620	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,587</b>	<b>156</b>

**From the Secretariat**

- These days, nearly all our communication and information exchange takes place via e-mail. Therefore, we are doing our best to update the e-mail addresses and other information for each city in our database. Please send us your latest contact information, and be sure to inform us if your mayor, contact person or your preferred e-mail address changes. Please help us stay in touch.
- **Please donate to the 2020 Vision Campaign**  
 Mayors for Peace is calling on member cities, foundations, like-minded corporations, and individuals to contribute funds for the global growth of the 2020 Vision Campaign. Please send your donation to:

Bank Account: Vredesfonds Stad Ieper  
 Bank name: DEXIA  
 Account Number: 088-2371003-27  
 IBAN nr.: BE48-0882-3710-0327  
 BIC(SWIFT code): GKCCBEBB

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