## Mayors for Peace



## Secretariat

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February 28, 2017

The Honorable Barack Obama Former President of the United States

Dear Mr. Obama,

I trust this letter finds you well.

Once again we thank you for visiting Hiroshima last year, the first sitting American president to do so.

Mayors for Peace, an international non-governmental organization founded by the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, will hold its quadrennial general conference from August 7 through 10 of this year in Nagasaki City. Today I am writing to humbly ask you to give the keynote speech at this conference.

Our organization was conceived in June 1982, when the mayor of Hiroshima proposed at the 2nd UN Special Session on Disarmament the "Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons," calling for global solidarity among cities. Today, we have grown to over 7,200 member cities from 162 countries and regions. The total population of these cities exceed a billion people.

The A-bombed cities, guided by the survivors who witnessed horrific devastation, have continued for decades asserting the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons. Now, we are finally witnessing an accelerating drive to outlaw nuclear weapons, with negotiations on a treaty prohibiting nuclear weapons scheduled for March and June this year.

I am convinced that if you send a message from Nagasaki this summer as you did in Hiroshima, our wish for nuclear abolition will certainly reach the hearts of people around the world. Your presence will also greatly encourage A-bomb survivors and many of our citizens, including our youth who are striving to take over the survivors' experience and their desire for peace.

I sincerely hope you will consider our request and agree to be the keynote speaker for our general conference.

Sincerely yours,

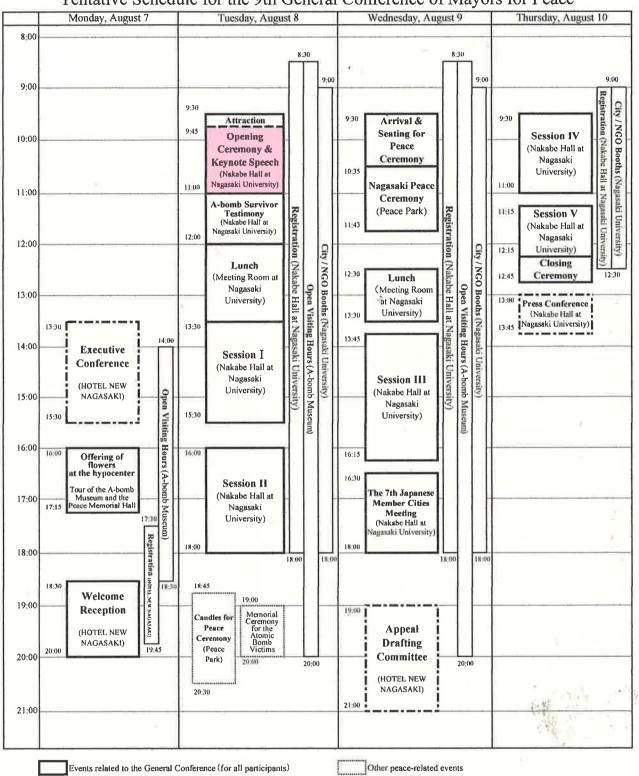
MATSUI Kazumi Mayor of Hiroshima President of Mayors for Peace

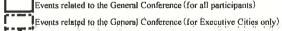
**TAUE Tomihisa** Mayor of Nagasaki Vice President of Mayors for Peace

## Information about the keynote speech;

Time and date: 10:00 to 11:00 am on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 (After the opening ceremony, which will start at 9:30) Keynote theme: Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons - What We Can Do Toward 2020 -

## Tentative Schedule for the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace





<sup>\*</sup> Please note that venues and schedules are subject to change.