



## Mayors for Peace

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### Secretariat

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October 13, 2017

Ms. Beatrice Fihn  
Executive Director  
International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN)

Dear Ms. Fihn:

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

I would like to congratulate ICAN on being awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize. As the President of Mayors for Peace, which shares your organization's goal of abolishing nuclear weapons, and as the Mayor of Hiroshima, the A-bombed city that desires the realization of a peaceful world without nuclear weapons, let me extend my heartfelt congratulations and applause. The *hibakusha* of Hiroshima and Nagasaki rejoice at the news of this prize being awarded owing to, as you have recognized, long-term joint efforts made by *hibakusha* and the like-minded members of ICAN.

Since its inception in 2007, your organization has consistently worked in collaboration with A-bomb survivors as well as civil society partners around the world to appeal to national governments and the international community for the need of a legal prohibition of nuclear weapons. This July, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was finally adopted. I believe this achievement is the result of the tireless and earnest efforts made by your organization, in solidarity with *hibakusha*; Mayors for Peace; and civil society partners, to realize a legal ban on nuclear weapons by focusing on their inhumanity. I am sure that worldwide media coverage on the Nobel Peace Award will raise awareness of inhumanity of nuclear weapons and boost the efforts calling for their elimination.

Amid the increasing tensions in the international community over North Korea, some insist that the strategy of nuclear deterrence should be used to solve issues; we feel the risk of nuclear proliferation growing ever closer. Given such circumstances, I would like to emphasize all the more that we should now work to get nuclear-armed states and their allies under the nuclear umbrella to join in the collective desire of civil society: our future must be free from nuclear weapons.

We at Mayors for Peace resolve to further strengthen solidarity with member cities and people around the world to enhance the international momentum towards the abolition of nuclear weapons. We are intent on working fervently to encourage policymakers to enact policy changes for the prohibition of nuclear weapons by means of these initiatives. Mayors for Peace would like to further promote collaboration with ICAN and its members to achieve our common goal. Your kind understanding and cooperation will be highly appreciated.

In closing, I offer my best wishes for the further development of your organization.

Sincerely yours,

MATSUI Kazumi  
President of Mayors for Peace  
Mayor of Hiroshima