

## **Mayors for Peace**

## **Secretariat**

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## 100 Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace

There are only 100 days left until the International Day of Peace on September 21.

The International Day of Peace is an important day to have all countries and people around the world join forces to express their determination to realize everlasting world peace and reflect on the importance and preciousness of peace. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt respect to United Nations Secretary-General Mr. António Guterres for the leadership he has shown in strongly promoting this day.

As a way toward lasting world peace, Mayors for Peace has established and is working for two main objectives: "Realization of a world without nuclear weapons" and "Realization of safe and resilient cities". We fully support the ideas behind the International Day of Peace, and have in the past held commemorative events and called on our member cities around the world to participate by holding their own events.

This year too, we call upon our 7,907 member cities from 164 countries and regions around the world to hold events on a day between August 6 and August 9, which respectively mark the dates of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and on September 21, the International Day of Peace, in order to share their desire for peace with as many people as possible and to pray for its realization.

Struck by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are fighting a common menace. There are many other challenges faced by humankind, such as the threat of the use of nuclear weapons worsened by the ongoing nuclear arms race, large-scale disasters caused by climate change, and growing wealth inequalities. We must build robust global unity among citizens everywhere to confront and eliminate these growing challenges to our common security.

Let us member cities of Mayors for Peace use the 100 days leading up to September 21 to rally our voices together and call for peace, so that, in solidarity with people around the world, we can make concerted efforts aimed at our common goal of a peaceful world free from nuclear weapons.

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MATSUI Kazumi President of Mayors for Peace Mayor of Hiroshima