



# Mayors for Peace News Flash

July 2021 / No.139

**Mayors for Peace Member Cities**  
**8,037 cities**  
**in 165 countries and regions**  
(as of July 1, 2021)

**Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!**

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“Like” and share our Facebook and Twitter posts to help spread awareness of our mission.

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## Our new Vision and Action Plan adopted at the 12th Executive Conference

On July 7, Mayors for Peace convened its [12th Executive Conference](#) online, and 18 Executive Cities attended. At the Conference, both our new Vision, titled *Vision for Peaceful Transformation to a Sustainable World (PX Vision for short)*, subsequent to the 2020 Vision which had reached its end at the end of the year 2020, and also Mayors for Peace Action Plan for up until the year 2025 were adopted unanimously.



To accomplish our ultimate goal, that of the abolition of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace, in this new PX Vision, in addition to the two existing objectives: “realize a world without nuclear weapons” and “realize safe and resilient cities,” we have newly set forth the third objective: “promote a culture of peace.”

To ensure the safety and security of the citizens from the great threat of nuclear weapons and to attain and maintain peaceful coexistence between the whole of humanity, let us implement initiatives under the new PX Vision and Action Plan (2021-2025) to promote peacebuilding by cities. Let us keep moving steadily toward our goal.



🔗 Read the full text of the new Vision and Action Plan: <http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/index.html>

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**Mayors for Peace Youth Webinar for Peace Action to be held!**  
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Mayors for Peace will hold a peace education webinar titled *Mayors for Peace Youth Webinar for Peace Action*, aiming to further stimulate youth-led peace activities in member cities. This webinar will be streamed live on YouTube. Registration for the livestream is now open!



Photo from the last year's webinar

- Date & time: August 26 (Thurs.), 2021, 7pm - 8:30 pm (Japan time)
- Platform: Zoom (+Livestreaming on YouTube)
- Content: Young people from around the world will give presentations on their peace activities and have a discussion.
- Facilitator: Ms. Keiko Nakamura (Associate professor, Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University)
- Presenters (planned):

Organization	Name	Country
Youth Peace Volunteers	Mr. Yuto Nakamura	Japan
KNOW NUKES TOKYO	Mr. Yuta Takahashi Ms. Suzuka Nakamura	Japan
Nagasaki Youth Delegation	Ms. Ayane Murakami Ms. Nao Suzuki	Japan
University of Malaya	Ms. Sumayyah Mohd Mazlan Ms. Aqidah Liman	Malaysia
New Zealand Red Cross	Mr. Sakhr Munassar	New Zealand
In Flanders Field Museum	Mr. Alexandro Yaramis	Belgium
Youth4Disarmament Initiative	Ms. Marykate Monaghan Ms. Isa Begemann	UK/Germany
Peace Organization PAX	Ms. Alejandra Muñoz	Netherlands
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation	Mr. Jack Moses	US

- Language: English
- YouTube livestreaming registration: Please go to the webinar page below on the Mayors for Peace website: [http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/210721\\_news.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/210721_news.html)
- Registration deadline: August 22 (Sun.), 2021, Japan time

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## Member city activities

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### ● Kuşadası, Turkey Peace Pigeon is in Kuşadası

Kuşadası Municipality has joined Mayors for Peace as the 17th member city from Turkey. After becoming a member of the network, Kuşadası Municipality once again put its signature onto an exemplary practice. In the 4th year of the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Kuşadası Municipality started to display the Mayors for Peace logo, which consists of green and white colours with pigeon symbol, on the digital screen installed on the entrance of the municipal service building to draw attention to the establishment of permanent peace in the world.

Mayor of Kuşadası Ömer Günel stated; “Our aim is to continue working to follow the footsteps of the Great Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and to continue his 'Peace at Home, Peace in the World' principle. For this purpose, we aim to draw the attention of our citizens to this important global issue by displaying the logo of Mayors for Peace for a day in front of our City Hall on July 7, the day the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted. We will ensure to achieve the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, prevent the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to be repeated, and create intercity solidarity that transcends national borders and ideological differences.”



### ● Greifswald, Germany Greifswald held the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition

Report by Ms. Evelyn Kamissek, the City of Hannover, Germany

The City of Greifswald, located in northeastern Germany, has been a member city since February 2020. Although Greifswald has joined the network not so long ago, they actively engage in the Mayors for Peace activities—one of which was holding the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition all around the city from June 14 to July 14, 2021.

On June 14, Mayor Fassbinder and Pastorin Kempf-Beyrich opened the exhibition in Greifswald's Cathedral. From there, the exhibition was passed on as a traveling exhibition to various places in the City of Greifswald—to schools, institutions, and facilities like multi-generation houses.

At the German Chapter, in addition to holding the Mayors for Peace Poster Exhibitions each organized by the member in the region like this one, we observe the “Flag Day” of German members on July 8 and ring peace and church bells on August 6 to disseminate the messages for a world without nuclear weapons.



● **Gennevilliers, France**  
**Young people on bikes to talk about solidarity**

Report by Ms. Loréna Schlicht, AFCD RP-Mayors for Peace France

The City of Gennevilliers organizes 2,047 kilometers cycling trip project between its two twin cities, Bergkamen in Germany and La Baneza in Spain from July 6 to August 16. 18 young Gennevilliers residents aged 16 to 25 participate in this challenging project with three groups in relays.

The sponsoring company of each bike donates the same amount of euro as the total number of kilometers that bike travelled, to the association called “Le chemin de Jade”, which helps children with disabilities.

A small interview was made with three cyclists: Jemaa Zaïneb (17 years old), Walid Oubella (18 years old), Nicolas Sezibera (18 years old).



🔗 To read the full interview, please visit:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activities/2021Jul\\_Gennevilliers.html](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activities/2021Jul_Gennevilliers.html)

● **Des Moines, U.S.**  
**Mayors for Peace U.S. Vice-President Frank Cownie Addresses Mayors on Climate Issues in Conjunction with G7 Summit**

Report by Ms. Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

Adapted from a report by Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors, June 14, 2021

On June 9, 2021, President of ICLEI Global (Local Governments for Sustainability) and Mayors for Peace U.S. Vice President Mayor Frank Cownie of Des Moines (photo right), Iowa represented the U.S. Conference of Mayors and American mayors at a meeting held virtually on the margins of the G7 Summit hosted by the United Kingdom.



Mayor Cownie spoke to his fellow mayors about the need to make the United Nations Climate Conference, that will take place in Glasgow this coming November, the UNFCCC’s COP26, “a generational meeting where we set a new bold agenda and raise the world’s commitment to addressing the climate emergency.” The global pandemic has called into question the ability of many poor countries to effectively participate in the International Climate Negotiations that follow the Paris Agreement.

Mayor Cownie called on G7 Leaders to “re-commit to inclusion and ensure that leaders from around the world can come to Glasgow to be heard and to advocate for their communities. We need to help those mayors, climate activists, youth activists, and civil society leaders to participate, and in doing so we can secure a legitimate outcome to the proceedings.”

The mayors meeting was hosted by Core Cities, UK’s initiative to create an engagement group around the G7, aptly named Urban7. This is part of an international trend in which mayors are being recognized as global leaders and gaining access to previously closed global institutions like the G20 and the International Organization for Migration.

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## Regional chapter activities

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### ● Australian Chapter

#### Australian cities call on the government to sign and ratify the TPNW at the ALGA annual assembly

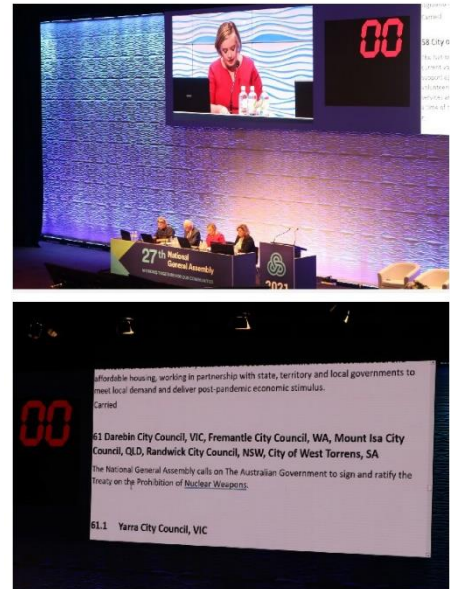
Report by Ms. Elizabeth PO', Mayors for Peace Fremantle, Australia

As an encouraging step towards Australia's support for the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the annual National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association passed a motion calling on our federal government to sign and ratify the Treaty, with no opposition.

The Canberra ALGA meeting on June 21, 2021 represented all 537 councils across Australia. The motion was supported by several councils, some of whom were able to attend, while others backed the proposal in advance.

The incumbent Australian federal government has not yet signed the Treaty, while the Labor party have committed in policy to do so when in government.

Mayors for Peace collaborated with ICAN and WILPF in this event. (Photos thanks to ICAN Australia)



### Please send us a report on your city's peace activities

Help us tell other members what you are doing! Please send the Secretariat a short report on a peace activity or initiative by your city so that we can share it on our [website](#) or the News Flash. Reports on your city's activity or initiative that stimulate youth to be engaged in peace activities or promote 'culture of peace' are especially welcome! We look forward to receiving ones.

Email: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp)

\*Please write a short (up to 200 words long) report in English, and send it to the above email address with photos (if any). Please include key information such as the date, venue, description, and result.

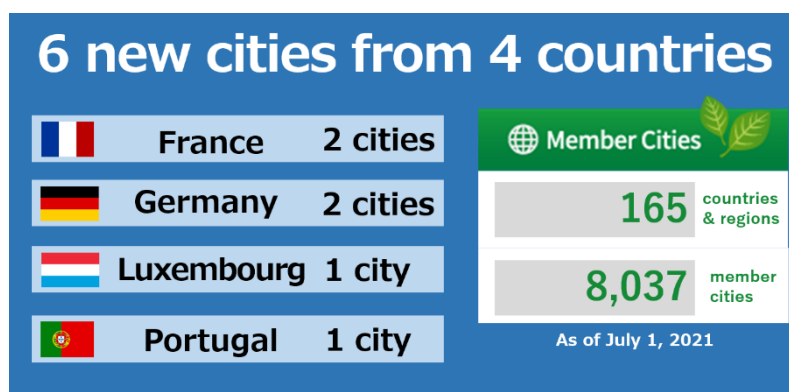
Next month, on August 6 and 9, the Cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will hold the annual Peace Memorial Ceremony, marking 76 years since the atomic bombings. On both days, the Secretariat will send **the Peace Declaration by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki** by e-mail. Please widely share the declaration with your fellow citizens, by reading them out at commemorative events organized by your city or posting them on your city's website.

**The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony 2021** will be live streamed on August 6.

Please visit the link below for details.

<https://www.city.hiroshima.lg.jp/site/english/175828.html>

## Mayors for Peace member cities - 8,037 cities in 165 countries/regions



Help us achieve **10,000** member cities!

On July 1, we gained 6 new member cities, bringing our total membership to 8,037. We thank all involved in promoting expanded membership for their invaluable support. Below is the breakdown of the new members.

Country	New Members	Total No.	Remarks
France	Chateau-Arnoux-Saint-Auban, Yzeure	161	Thanks efforts by Malakoff, a Vice President and Lead City.
Germany	Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Rheurdt	716	Thanks to efforts by Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City.
Luxembourg	Waldbredimus	62	Continuing from February, new cities joined.
Portugal	Almada	40	Thanks to efforts by Évora, a member city in Portugal.

List of new members (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03\\_newmembers/2021/newmembers2107\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/03_newmembers/2021/newmembers2107_en.pdf)

Membership by country (PDF):

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01\\_monthly\\_updating/07\\_membership\\_by\\_country\\_en.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/01_monthly_updating/07_membership_by_country_en.pdf)

### Help us achieve 10,000 member cities!

Mayors for Peace aims to achieve 10,000 member cities to foster international public support for the realization of a world without nuclear weapons. Invite other cities in your country, as well as your sister cities and any other cities with which you have relations to join Mayors for Peace. You can download a letter of request and document pack below.

The document pack is available in 10 different languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

Letters of request to join Mayors for Peace and document pack

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/join.html#section01>

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## Report by Executive Advisor

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### Our City, Our Planet, Our Future: Chicago-Area Elected Officials Take on Nuclear Weapons


Report by Ms. Jacqueline Cabasso, Executive Advisor for Mayors for Peace

On June 22, 2021, the Union of Concerned Scientists hosted a virtual event, titled “[Our City, Our Planet, Our Future: Chicago-Area Elected Officials Take on Nuclear Weapons](#).” The forum was opened by David Combs of the Union of Concerned Scientists, who declared: “We’re here to talk about the local issue of nuclear weapons.” Observing that when they had met just a week earlier, U.S. President Biden and Russian President Putin had reaffirmed that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought, he noted that “the U.S. is moving in the opposite direction,” maintaining a massive nuclear arsenal, keeping nuclear weapons on hair-trigger alert, and preparing to spend billions of dollars in the coming years on new nuclear weapons.

“In Chicago and all of Illinois,” he said, “we’re not waiting on a few national leaders to solve our problems.” He explained that [Evanston, Illinois “led the charge” in 2020 by passing a resolution](#) that calls upon the U.S. government to embrace the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and make global nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of our national security policy.

In passing the resolution, Evanston joined the “[Back From the Brink](#)” campaign by calling upon the U.S. government to spearhead a global effort to prevent nuclear war by: renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first; ending the sole, unchecked authority of any president to launch a nuclear attack; taking U.S. nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert; cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and actively pursuing a verifiable agreement among nuclear-armed states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals. Back From the Brink has been endorsed by 350 organizations, and resolutions have been adopted by more than 50 U.S. cities and counties and four U.S. states.

Mr. Combs expressed hope local organizers could build on Evanston’s leadership and support a proposed Chicago resolution as well as further statewide efforts. Panelists included Hirokazu Miyazaki, Professor of Anthropology in Evanston, Illinois and a Nagasaki Peace Correspondent, Chicago Alderwoman Maria Hadden, who plans to introduce a Back From the Brink resolution in the Chicago City Council soon, Mayor Daniel Biss of Evanston, Illinois State Representative Robyn Gabel, an early supporter of the Evanston resolution who subsequently introduced a resolution in the Illinois State House, Illinois State Representative Denyse Wang Stoneback, and David Borris, President of the Chicago Area Peace Action chapter, who introduced a [Back From the Brink sign-on letter from local, county and state officials](#), expected to be delivered to President Biden and members of the U.S. Congress in August 2021.

 To read the full interview, please visit:

[http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2021/chicago\\_webinar.pdf](http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/2021/chicago_webinar.pdf)

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## Request for Payment of the 2021 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

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In order to facilitate future activities and strengthen the sense of solidarity amongst member cities, Mayors for Peace introduced an annual Membership Fee in 2015.

This year again, we ask each member city to pay a fee of 2,000 Japanese yen (about 19 USD/16 Euro as of March 2021) per city. If your city has not paid their Membership Fee in previous years, we ask your city to pay the total amount owed for each unpaid year since 2015. The collected Membership Fees will be allocated toward new and existing projects listed on the [Mayors for Peace Action Plan](#).

A request for payment of the 2021 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 1. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

\* If you want to know your city’s payment status or if you have not received the email of request for payment, please contact the Secretariat.

 Request for the 2021 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/aboutus/fee.html>

Contact: Mayors for Peace Secretariat (email: [mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp](mailto:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp))

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## Call for input: examples of initiatives to foster peace-seeking spirit

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The Mayors for Peace Secretariat has been seeking examples of peace education initiatives conducted by any organization (city hall/school/NGO, etc.) in Mayors for Peace member cities that are conducive to raising peace-seeking spirit among future generations. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat accepts reports on a rolling basis, so please send your report whenever your project is completed. The submitted reports will be posted on our website and in the Mayors for Peace News Flash as a source of information for other member cities that are planning to launch their own peace education program.

 Call for Input on the Mayors for Peace website:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/vision/initiatives.html#section10>

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## A closer look at the “World’s Nuclear Warheads Count in 2021” Part 1 Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition, Nagasaki University (RECNA)

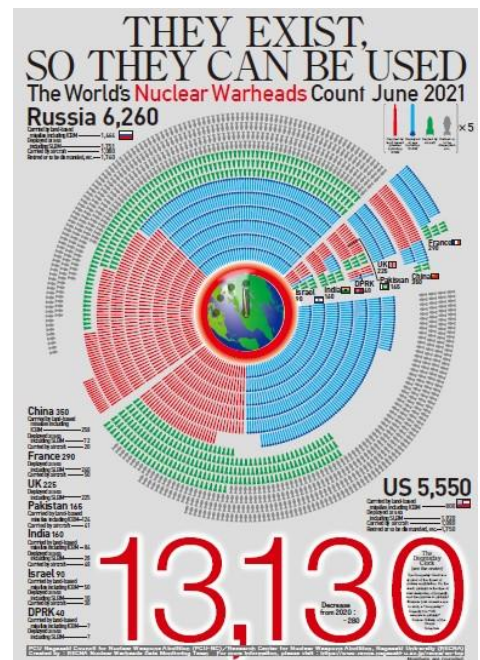
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As we introduced last time, as of June 2021, the total number of nuclear warheads in the world is estimated at 13,130. The possessors are: United States (5,550), Russia (6,260), United Kingdom (225), France (290), China (350), India (160), Pakistan (165), Israel (90), and North Korea (40).

Nearly 90% of the warheads are owned by the United States and Russia. The number of the warheads in the two countries, which once totaled nearly 70,000, has been greatly reduced since the end of the Cold War through bilateral and unilateral measures.

However, both states have maintained that nuclear weapons are indispensable for their security. To make matters worse, the nuclear arms race between them has been intensified as the great power rivalries involving China has escalated. Both the United States and Russia have invested a huge budget to modernize and upgrade their aging nuclear weapons systems, while accelerating their efforts to develop and deploy new types of weapons utilizing state-of-art technology. As exemplified by the expiration of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty in August 2019, bilateral and multilateral arms control regimes have also been deteriorating. Such an attitude of the superpowers have greatly hindered the progress of global nuclear disarmament.

For further information, please see: <https://www.recna.nagasaki-u.ac.jp/recna/en-top>





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## Peace news from Hiroshima

(Provided by the Hiroshima Peace Media Center of the CHUGOKU SHIMBUN)

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Four years ago on July 7, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was adopted at the headquarters of the United Nations. The treaty strongly reflects the determination to never repeat the tragedies experienced by Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, and Nagasaki three days later. For that reason, the treaty is described as representing the earnest wishes of A-bomb survivors.

The desperate conditions in Hiroshima at that time are captured in five photographs taken by the late Yoshito Matsushige, a Chugoku Shimbun photojournalist. No other photos showing the misery in the city of Hiroshima on the day of the atomic bombing have ever been found. As such, earlier this year in April, the photos taken by Mr. Matsushige were designated as Hiroshima City's important tangible cultural properties.

One of the photos shows a man in a white shirt standing behind a group of the wounded. It was learned in June that the man in the photo was very likely the late Dr. Yasutaro Matsubayashi, who provided aid to victims at the scene in the aftermath of the atomic bombing. His remaining family members believe the man in the photo to be Mr. Matsubayashi based in part on the late doctor's letters, written accounts of his experiences, and known physical appearance.

Some might consider the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to be events from the distant past. But, surely they are not. Even today, new information about what kind of people experienced the atomic bombings and where is still being uncovered.

Please see the following for more peace-related news.

Fukuyama NPO publishes booklet about history of peace exchanges between Japan and Germany, including tributes to late German NGO chairperson

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=106112>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima — “Shichotai” military base A-bombed remnants discovered at planned site of new soccer stadium

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=106114>

Interactions between Iran and Hiroshima made into movie—Poison gas victims visit A-bombed city of Hiroshima and regain “hope”

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=106240>

Striving to fill voids in Hiroshima—Yasutaro Matsubayashi confirmed by family to appear in photographer Yoshito Matsushige's image

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=106234>

Chugoku Shimbun publishes its series and photos in book form, “Striving to Fill Voids in Hiroshima”

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=106165>

**Mayors for Peace Official Social Media Accounts**

<Twitter>   
<https://twitter.com/Mayors4Peace>



<Facebook>   
<https://www.facebook.com/mayorsforpeace>



 The latest and archived issues of Mayors for Peace News Flash are available at:  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statements/newsflash.html>

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If you have any comments or questions, please contact us at:

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