

Summary Notes

13th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace

In this Executive Conference, various issues were raised. It was decided that the Secretariat would carry forward examination of these topics to support consensus-building among member cities at the next General Conference. The discussions during the conference are as follows:

Since our establishment in 1982, we, Mayors for Peace, have worked in solidarity with cities around the world toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace. Over the years, we have grown into a network of 8,426 peace cities in 166 countries and regions. In this context, the 13th Mayors for Peace Executive Conference was held in Manchester, UK, on October 28 and 29, 2024.

The Executive Conference commenced with a review of the ongoing initiatives implemented under the current Action Plan (2021–2025). Following the review, the City of Hannover, Germany, presented the activities of the German Chapter, and the City of Evora, Portugal, reported on its efforts involving young people in promoting the culture of peace.

The Conference then discussed initiatives for the next Action Plan and agreed on their basic direction. In particular, the Conference agreed to: (i) under the leadership of the Lead Cities, take concrete measures within each regional chapter to establish a system that encourages each member city to implement self-directed activities to enhance the effectiveness of Mayors for Peace initiatives on a global level and (ii) set “Widely convey the realities of the atomic bombings and war” and “Develop youth leadership for future peace activities” as priority initiatives to be collectively implemented, as they play crucial roles in achieving the objectives outlined in the PX Vision. The Conference further agreed to continue deepening discussions with interested parties, including the Executive Cities, toward the formulation of the next Action Plan at the 11th General Conference of Mayors for Peace, scheduled for August next year in Nagasaki City.

Next, following the Secretariat’s report on its plans for next year’s initiatives commemorating 80 years since the atomic bombings, the Conference exchanged views on the operational policies for the 11th General Conference of Mayors for Peace and agreed to undertake the following initiatives next year: (i) organizing Children’s Art Competition “Peaceful Towns” Exhibition at the UN Headquarters in New York, US; (ii) resuming the Youth Exchange for Peace Support Program, and (iii) organizing exhibitions, including the Mayors for Peace Atomic Bomb Poster Exhibition, in various locations worldwide, among others.

Furthermore, the Conference exchanged views on improving the collection rate of membership fees and further encouraging donations to the Secretariat to improve the financial capability needed to ensure that each Mayors for Peace member city can steadily continue its activities toward achieving the objectives outlined in the PX Vision.

In addition to these meetings, on the occasion of this Executive Conference, the Executive Board of the Mayors for Peace European Chapter, chaired by Granollers, Spain, and consisting of Executive Cities in Europe, held the European Chapter Meeting. Additionally, the UK and Ireland Chapter, with Manchester City Council serving as its Secretariat, held the UK and Ireland Chapter Meeting. Both chapter meetings discussed initiatives within their respective chapters.

2025 will mark 80 years since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the end of World War II. As a global network made up of heads of local governments, whose role is to ensure citizens’ safety and security, we hereby express our determination to continue strengthening our solidarity and collaboration with member cities worldwide that share our desire for peace. Our aim is to promote the culture of peace in civil society and create a world in which we all share this culture, as we work toward the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the realization of lasting world peace.

Lastly, we would like to conclude by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Manchester City Council for its exceptional efforts as the host city in ensuring the successful operation of the Conference and the warm hospitality extended to its participants.

These notes will be distributed to all member cities of Mayors for Peace.

October 29, 2024
13th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace