

# *Mayors for Peace*



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July 2015  
The City of Hiroshima

# Mayors for Peace

## 1 Outline

In August 1945, single atomic bombs dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki instantaneously reduced them to rubble, taking vast numbers of precious lives. To ensure that the atomic tragedy is never repeated anywhere on earth, Hiroshima and Nagasaki have consistently sought to persuade the world that nuclear weapons are inhumane and have continually called for their total abolition.



8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Hiroshima in August 2013

On June 24 1982, at the 2nd Special Session on Disarmament held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the mayor of Hiroshima announced the Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons, a plan to build transnational solidarity among cities to facilitate collective efforts toward the elimination of nuclear weapons. The mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki issued a joint call to cities everywhere to support this program.

Mayors for Peace is a conference of cities that have expressed their support for the program described above. We were registered as a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council in May 1991.

## 2 General Conference, Executive Conference and Executive Member Cities

We hold our General Conference once every four years and Executive Conference once every two years.

The mayors of the following 16 cities are executives of the conference.

President	Hiroshima (Japan)
Vice Presidents	Nagasaki (Japan)
	Hannover (Germany)
	Volgograd (Russia)
	Malakoff (France)
	Muntinlupa (Philippines)
	Manchester (U.K.)
	Akron (U.S.A.)
	Ypres (Belgium)
	Biograd na Moru (Croatia)
	Granollers (Spain)
	Halabja (Iraq)
	Brussels (Belgium)
	Fongo-Tongo (Cameroon)
	Mexico City (Mexico)
	Frogn (Norway)



Participants of the 8th Executive Conference held in Granollers, Spain in November 2011



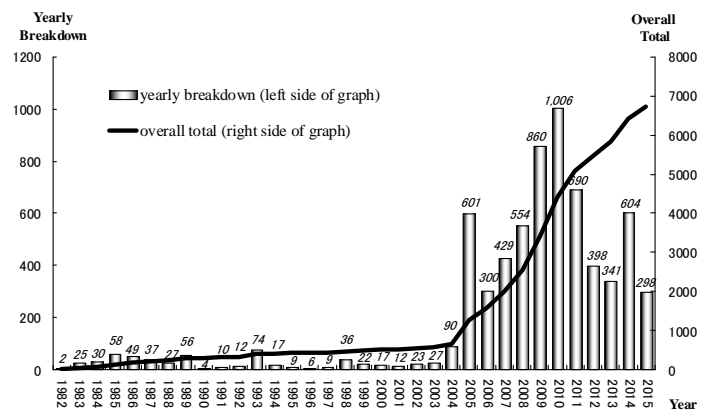
### 3 Membership

6,733 cities in 160 countries and regions (as of July 1, 2015)

#### Member Cities (July 1, 2015)

Area	Member
Asia	30 countries & regions 2,696 Cities
Oceania	9 countries & regions 128 Cities
Africa	46 countries & regions 359 Cities
Europe (CIS)	47 countries 2,572 Cities
North America	3 countries & regions 307 Cities
Latin America and the Caribbean	25 countries & regions 671 Cities
<b>Total</b>	<b>160 countries &amp; regions 6,733 Cities</b>

#### Membership Growth by Year



### 4 Major Activities

Mayors for Peace conducts the following activities through cooperating member cities.

- 1) Calls worldwide for solidarity among cities
- 2) Conducts 2020 Vision Campaign to eliminate nuclear weapons by the year 2020
  - Conducts a petition drive calling for a Nuclear Weapons Convention
  - Presents petitions and appeals to the United Nations and individual governments for the elimination of nuclear weapons; reports the results
- 3) Publishes newsletters and the email News Flash
- 4) Collects information on member city activities for display on the Mayors for Peace website.
- 5) Sends Hiroshima and Nagasaki Peace Declarations to member cities and allies
- 6) Holds a General Conference once every four years
- 7) Holds an Executive Meeting once every two years.

#### Mayors for Peace Secretariat

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# The 2020 Vision

(An Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons)

## 1 2020 Vision (established in November 2004, revised in November 2011)

Mayors for Peace launched an “Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons” to raise public demand for the abolition of nuclear weapons and promote actions to convey that demand to each nation state. That campaign set forth our “2020 Vision,” a program to eliminate all nuclear weapons by the year 2020. Based on this vision, we will continue to work with cities, citizens, NGOs and other organizations around the world to develop initiatives that promote the abolition of nuclear weapons,

Objectives

### 1) Immediately de-alert all nuclear weapons

Even today, thousands of nuclear weapons around the world stand ready to launch on warning. This level of alert is madness, and stepping down is the quickest, easiest way to prevent an accidental nuclear holocaust.

### 2) Immediately start substantive negotiations toward a universal nuclear weapons convention

After repeated promises at NPT Review Conferences and other occasions by the nuclear-weapon states to eliminate their nuclear arsenals, we call on national governments to start substantive negotiations now to achieve a nuclear weapons convention.

### 3) Conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention by 2015

We call on national governments and other institutions to work toward the conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention by 2015 that comprehensively prohibits the development, production, testing, stockpiling, or use of nuclear weapons and provides for their elimination.

### 4) Physical destruction of all nuclear weapons by 2020

The weapons can be destroyed. Fissile materials can be rendered unusable. Strict international control is technically feasible. A nuclear-weapon-free world is possible.

## 2 Activities based on the 2020 Vision

At the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Hiroshima in August 2013, Mayors for Peace developed ‘Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017),’ as described hereinafter, which will be undertaken from 2013 to 2017 based on the 2020 Vision.



## **Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2013-2017)**

### **I Purport**

Mayors for Peace has been dedicating its efforts to the expansion of its membership in order to develop the 2020 Vision (Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons), a set of guidelines for action aimed at abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020, under the cooperation of ever more cities and citizens worldwide. Currently, 5,712 cities from 157 countries/regions around the world have joined Mayors for Peace, representing one-seventh of the total global population, or one billion people.

As the circle of support for nuclear weapons abolition widens, we witness an accelerating momentum to highlight the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and outlaw them, which is precisely in line with our 2020 Vision in three key areas.

- Greater awareness of the urgent imperative to abolish nuclear weapons  
The international Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons held in Oslo on March 4 and 5, attended by 127 countries, considered both the direct impact of a nuclear explosion upon humanity and the indirect catastrophic impact on the global climate.
- Good faith efforts to get negotiations started towards achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world  
The 2012 UN General Assembly established an Open-Ended Working Group with a mandate to develop proposals to proceed with multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons. The Working Groups sessions in Geneva attended by about 70 countries, including many of those allied to nuclear weapon states, as well as international organizations and civil society, started sessions in May to compile a report for the sixty-eighth UN General Assembly Session in September.
- Holding the High-level meeting of the UN General Assembly on nuclear disarmament  
For the first time ever, the UN General Assembly will hold a high-level plenary meeting at the opening of the UN General Assembly on September 26 to discuss nuclear disarmament. The UN resolution that scheduled this session urges participation at the “highest level”, and Mayors for Peace has been urging the same.

From now on, one of the roles that Mayors for Peace must play is to strengthen the voice of the citizens urging concrete measures towards nuclear weapons abolition to governments worldwide, and to raise the international public awareness calling for nuclear weapons abolition. For this purpose, the expansion of membership in Mayors for Peace and the active development of independent activities at the city, regional, and international level are necessary. In addition to having even more people understand the reality of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and having the message of the atomic bomb survivors, calling for nuclear weapons abolition, be shared by people around the world, it will be necessary to foster public opinion with the cooperation of many groups. Furthermore, it is necessary to strengthen the measures calling on the United Nations and governments of various nations to overcome the barriers of mutual distrust, regardless of nationality, race, religion, as well as building a sense of community, and creating a security system rooted in a feeling of brotherhood as fellow members of the human race.



In addition, the improvement of the financial basis of Mayors for Peace and the Secretariat's function is also an important challenge.

Based on these considerations, the main projects to be promoted from 2013 to 2017 under the 2020 Vision are as listed below.

## II Main Projects

### 1. Expanding membership and strengthening Mayors for Peace's management system

#### 1) Expanding membership

##### i. Calling on non-member cities for membership through various channels

We will call on non-member cities to join Mayors for Peace, not only through the Mayors for Peace Secretariat (hereafter referred to as Hiroshima Secretariat) but through associations of local governments, lead cities, 2020 Vision Campaigners, and other channels.

##### ii. Calling on capital cities for membership <new>

We will promote the membership of capital cities, which have great political influence.

#### 2) Promoting regionalization and galvanizing regional activities <new>

##### i. Selection of lead cities and their roles

In order to encourage proactive and independent activities appropriate to each region, we will promote the creation of regional groups. For this end, we will select a number of lead cities, which will serve as chapters for the Hiroshima Secretariat and take the lead in their regional activities. The lead cities are also expected to establish an appropriate system as chapters.

Following discussions with candidate cities, the President will select lead cities, which will then identify countries and areas that will join their regional group. Also, when non-executive cities have been selected as lead cities, the cities will be appointed to become executive cities.

##### ii. Holding of regional conferences by member cities

To stimulate regional activities, lead cities will hold regional conferences to exchange information and determine the content of activities based on regional characteristics.

#### 3) Strengthening information transmission <new>

We will utilize social media to facilitate the transmission of information about Mayors for Peace's activities and information exchange among member cities.

#### 4) Solidifying the financial basis

##### i. Fundraising

Mayors for Peace will seek to explore and use better and more effective fund raising strategies to maximize fund raising beyond membership fees, for example, specific events, joint projects with partners and application to funding and revenue giving organizations.

##### ii. Membership fees <new>

In order to build a system through which all member cities cooperate to support the organization while maintaining membership, each city will bear an annual membership fee of 2,000 yen.

Furthermore, we will welcome any voluntary payment of more than 2,000 yen. Cities will not



lose their membership automatically if they do not pay the fee.

## 5) Improving the Secretariat's functions

### i. Receiving of interns, etc.

We will work to improve the functions of the Secretariat through receiving interns from member cities and maintaining information about member cities.

### ii. Establishing the positions of Secretary General and Under-Secretary General <new>

The Chairperson and Executive Director of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation will serve respectively as Secretary General and Under Secretary General at the Hiroshima Secretariat.

## 2. Fostering the international public opinion for nuclear weapons abolition

### 1) Communication and transmission of Hiroshima and Nagasaki's messages

#### i. Spreading the reality of atomic bombing through holding A-bomb Poster Exhibitions in member cities

Member cities will hold Hiroshima-Nagasaki A-bomb Poster Exhibitions in their cities so that more citizens may deepen their understanding of the reality of atomic bombings and share our strong desire for nuclear abolition. Also, through the cooperation with worldwide peace and war museums, we will disseminate the reality of the atomic bombings. In order to hold an exhibition, cities will apply to the City of Hiroshima, the City of Nagasaki, or the Hiroshima Secretariat for A-bomb posters, etc. as well as carrying out effective promotional activities.

#### ii. A-bomb survivor testimony through Skype

We will transmit testimonies of A-bomb survivors through Skype connecting venues in member cities and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum.

#### iii. Promotion of Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course

We will encourage colleges and universities in member cities to establish and promote Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Courses designed to analyze, systematize, and convey the reality of the atomic bombings and A-bomb survivors' messages to younger generations.

#### iv. Distribution and cultivation of seeds and seedlings of A-bombed trees <new>

We will distribute the seeds and seedlings of A-bombed trees, which have survived the atomic bombing and are alive today, to the member cities wishing to receive them. They will carry out activities to raise citizens' awareness for peace using trees, as well as taking care of them as a symbol of peace.

#### v. Distribution and preservation of the Flame of Peace <new>

We will distribute fire from the Flame of Peace, which will keep burning until all nuclear weapons on the planet are eliminated, to the member cities which are interested in this project. They will carry out projects to raise citizens' awareness for peace using the flame, as well as keeping it burning as a symbol of peace.

#### vi. Holding of Exhibition: 'The Light' - Portraits of the 'Hibakusha' <new>

To the member cities wishing to hold this event, we will lend portraits of atomic bomb survivors and their second/third generation drawn by the faculty and students of the Hiroshima City University, as well as descriptions about their A-bomb experiences and wish for peace.



vii. Screening of animated films: ‘On a Paper Crane’ and ‘Barefoot Gen’ <new>

To the member cities wishing to hold this event, we will lend animated films for screening, such as ‘On a Paper Crane’, a story about a 12-year-old girl Sadako Sasaki who died due to an A-bomb related disease while folding paper cranes in hope for her recovery, and ‘Barefoot Gen’, depicting a strong-willed boy named Gen who lived through hardship among the ruins of Hiroshima.

viii. Receiving of journalists and peace activists from member cities and diplomats <new>

We will receive journalists and peace activists from member cities and diplomats of foreign missions in Japan in Hiroshima and Nagasaki so that they may understand the reality of the atomic bombings and share our strong desire for nuclear weapons abolition. Following their return to their home countries, we will encourage them to engage in various activities to foster public opinion toward nuclear abolition in their cities.

ix. Receiving of youths and university students to Hiroshima and Nagasaki <new>

We will receive youths from member cities and students from universities which have established the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Study Course so that they can deepen their understanding of the reality of the atomic bombings, and get involved with nuclear abolition activities in their cities. We will provide them with opportunities to participate in peace-related programs, such as listening to an A-bomb survivor’s testimony, interacting with local youths and peace activists in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and attending a briefing about Mayors for Peace.

2) Cooperation with a variety of groups, promotion of awareness activities

i. Promotion of a resolution for Mayors for Peace initiatives at associations of local authorities around the world

In order to foster public opinion for nuclear weapons abolition on a wide-ranging city and citizen level, we will encourage various associations of local authorities around the world, such as United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), Federation of Latin America and Caribbean Cities, Municipalities and Local Government Associations (FLACMA) and Japan Association of City Mayors, to pass a resolution for our initiatives toward nuclear weapons abolition. When a resolution is passed, we will publicize the fact on our website or through a press release.

ii. Strengthening of collaboration with worldwide peace institutes including the Hiroshima Peace Institute and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition

We will investigate the possibility of joint projects with worldwide peace institutes including the Hiroshima Peace Institute of Hiroshima City University, and the Research Center for Nuclear Weapons Abolition of Nagasaki University, as well as utilizing their human resources and academic research results as peace research institutions in atomic bombed cities.

iii. Collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies <new>

We will collaborate with ICRC and Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies around the world in order to foster international public opinion toward nuclear weapons abolition through activities such as



co-sponsoring A-bomb poster exhibitions, distributing seeds and seedlings of atomic bombed trees, and sharing the fire of the Flame of Peace in the Peace Memorial Park.

- iv. Building of networks with international peace organizations and collaboration with their activities <new>

We will work to build networks with international peace organizations, peace NGOs, parliamentarians, prominent figures in culture, arts, sports, etc. as well as collaborating with their activities. We will especially strengthen and intensify our collaboration with the Abolition 2000 - Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons (Abolition 2000) and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN).

- v. Collaboration with the Peace Boat on the Hibakusha World Tour Project with the theme “I was her age.”<New from 2020VCA>

In collaboration with the peace NGO Peace Boat, we will plan a route for a ship voyage with atomic bomb survivors and youth, coinciding with the 2015 NPT Review Conference in New York, and making stops at member cities on the way from and to Japan. In member cities and New York, we will organize peace gatherings, in which parents with their young children encounter hibakusha who in 1945 were the same age as their child is today and pledge to strive for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Host cities will undertake to promote public awareness of and participation in the gathering with the hibakusha, as well as local, national, and where possible international media attention.

- vi. Creation and publication of the Cities’ World Peace Calendar <New from 2020VCA>

The Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign Association (2020VCA) will take the lead in creating and publicizing the Peace Calendar, which recognizes activities toward nuclear weapons abolition being undertaken in member cities on each of the 365 days of the year. Cities which have experienced the scourge of war will be encouraged to commemorate the anniversary of the attack on their city in the spirit of “Cities Are Not Targets!” All member cities will also be encouraged to commemorate the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki (on or between 6-9 August) and/or the International Day of Peace (21 September).

- vii. Centennial Commemoration of the first use of weapons of mass destruction <New from 2020VCA>

An international conference of cities in Ypres, Belgium, to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first use of weapons of mass destruction (begin 22 April 2015). The themes will be “A Century of WMD: Enough!” and “Cities Are Not Targets!” and will publicize the results of a comprehensive survey of the historical experience of cities coming under attack in the last 100 years compiled by the 2020 Vision Campaign. The conference will consider how cities can most effectively mobilize to counter the targeting of cities in the future, including threats of use of weapons of mass destruction.

### 3. Promotion of actions for the early realization of a nuclear weapons convention

- i. Calling on the United Nations and governments for action

Taking advantage of the following international conferences, we will call on the United Nations and governments around the world to take action in good faith toward the conclusion of a nuclear



weapons convention. As well as other international gatherings that may in due course be scheduled by governments and the United Nations, such as a renewed mandate for the Open-Ended Working Group on Taking Forward Multilateral Nuclear Disarmament Negotiations in 2014

- September 2013 High-level meeting of the UN General Assembly on nuclear disarmament (New York, USA)
- February 2014 International Conference on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons (Mexico)
- April 2014 2014 ministerial meeting of the Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Initiative (NPDI) (Hiroshima, Japan)
- April-May 2014 Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference (New York, USA)
- April-May 2015 NPT Review Conference (New York, USA)

ii. Promoting a petition drive calling for a nuclear weapons convention

Member cities will carry out a petition drive demanding the immediate commencement of negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention. Each member city will collect as many signatures as possible ahead of the Third Session of the Preparatory Committee for the NPT Review Conference to be held in 2014, and send them to the Hiroshima Secretariat by the end of March 2014. They will continue to collect petitions thereafter and the President of Mayors for Peace will submit them to the United Nations as appropriate.

iii. Sending protest letters against acts contrary to the objective of nuclear weapons abolition

Mayors for Peace will send letters and messages of protest against acts contrary to the objective of nuclear abolition, such as nuclear tests, threats, and development.

iv. Selection of 2020 Vision Ambassadors

Member cities will nominate 2020 Vision Ambassadors who will spread the philosophy of Mayors for Peace and communicate messages for nuclear abolition utilizing their talent, fame, and status. The 2020 Vision Campaign Association will choose from among the nominees.

v. Increasing the number of 2020 Vision Campaigners and support for their activities

We will increase the number of 2020 Vision Campaigners working to promote and educate people about the 2020 Vision Campaign, and to recruit member cities for Mayors for Peace. Furthermore, we will support their activities by providing information and promotional goods through the 2020 Vision Campaign Association.



## The Hiroshima Appeal

We, representatives of 5,712 cities from 157 countries/regions around the world, have met at the 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Hiroshima and engaged in extensive discussions on the theme ‘Toward a World without Nuclear Weapons—Conveying the “Spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki” to the World.’

In August 1945, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were reduced to ruins, in both cases by a single atomic bomb, and more than 210,000 people from the two cities lost their precious lives. The suffering of the atomic bomb survivors—known as hibakusha—from the blast, heat and radiation continues to this day, 68 years later. Having lived through an experience too cruel to be put into words, the atomic bomb survivors have continued to appeal for nuclear abolition and to extend their desire for peace to the people of the world. Their dedication stems from their deep humanitarian conviction that “no one should ever again suffer as we have.”

Mayors for Peace, which feels a strong sense of responsibility to guarantee the safety and welfare of citizens everywhere, empathizes profoundly with the spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in striving for nuclear abolition and peace, and is intensifying its activities to promote the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.

“Hiroshima” and “Nagasaki” are names that are now well known throughout the world. However, those states that possess nuclear weapons have turned a deaf ear to the earnest appeals of the hibakusha, and during the Cold War they engaged in a nuclear arms race that eventually increased their number to the current total of nine. While there has been some reduction in the number of nuclear weapons, this has been too slow and inadequate. Today, almost a quarter of a century since the Cold War ended, an estimated 17,300 nuclear weapons continue to pose an intolerable threat to humanity and the environment. With about 2,000 nuclear weapons on high alert, the threatened use of nuclear weapons, euphemistically called “deterrence,” and the unspeakable horror it implies, is still the mainstay of the international security regime. Furthermore, nuclear proliferation remains a current and dangerous threat, and we cannot deny the possibility that a sub-national terrorist group might obtain nuclear weapons.

And yet, in a time of unprecedented global economic crisis, fantastically expensive programs to use new tests to modernize nuclear weapons systems are underway in all of the states that possess nuclear arms, with no end in sight, misappropriating resources that are badly needed to fund basic human needs.

The need to achieve a world without nuclear weapons that will be sustainable over the long term compels us to build a new society in which mutual distrust and threats are replaced by a shared sense of community, rooted in an awareness that we all belong to the same human family. In such a society, diversity will be treasured and disputes will be resolved through peaceful means. The road to this goal may be long and difficult, but it is certainly achievable, and we must proceed with determination. At the same time, while on this path, it is absolutely necessary to prevent the criminal act of another use of nuclear weapons, which would result in unfathomable disaster to humanity and the environment. To this end, concrete policies, frameworks and confidence-building measures to promote international and regional peace and security must be put in place—in particular, in regions such as the Middle East, North East Asia and South Asia, where nuclear tensions are on the rise.

Facing the continuing threat posed by nuclear weapons, we need to redouble our efforts to bring all states to the table to commence negotiations for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible date. This is the main goal of the Mayors for Peace 2020 Vision Campaign to ban nuclear weapons.



While we acknowledge the many complementary efforts to abolish nuclear weapons, we, Mayors for Peace, place our priority at this stage on promoting a nuclear weapons convention or other effective means of establishing a world free of nuclear weapons. In this context, we welcome several promising new developments that are highlighting the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and accelerating the momentum toward their becoming outlawed. The Final Document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference referred for the first time to the inhumanity of nuclear weapons and a nuclear weapons convention. In March this year, Norway hosted a ground-breaking conference in Oslo on the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons, with 127 governments in attendance. A follow-on conference, hosted by Mexico, is scheduled for February 2014. In May, a new United Nations working group open to all member states began meeting in Geneva “to develop proposals to take forward multilateral nuclear disarmament negotiations for the achievement and maintenance of a world without nuclear weapons.” And the first ever UN High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament will take place on September 26 in New York.

Mayors for Peace calls on all states, including those that possess nuclear weapons, to participate constructively and in good faith in the new UN working group, the UN High-Level Nuclear Disarmament Meeting, and the Mexico conference on the Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons, as well as in preparations for the 2015 Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty Review Conference.

Along with this immediate campaign, we will also expand our activities to advance the longer-term goal of cultivating the sense of global community as one human family that will ultimately be the basis for lasting world peace.

In order for Mayors for Peace to carry out this ambitious agenda, further expansion of our membership and the development of proactive and independent activities at the regional level are necessary. Further, we need to convince people around the world to actively support the heartfelt desire of the atomic bomb survivors for peace. To raise global awareness as widely as possible about the harsh reality of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, especially among future generations, we must strengthen our relationships with the United Nations, parliamentarians, associations of local authorities, the International Committee of the Red Cross, international peace organizations, other organizations working for peace, human rights, and protection of the environment, and prominent figures in culture, the arts, and sports. Our collaborative activities can help to mobilize widespread international public opinion for peace.

By expanding the number of our member cities and deepening the involvement of existing members, and through increased networking with diverse organizations, we will overcome the barriers of mutual distrust based on nationality, race, or religion, and create a security system rooted in a sense of global community as members of the same human family.

In light of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the gas attacks on Halabja and the upcoming commemoration of the centennial anniversary in 2015 of the first use of a weapon of mass destruction on Ypres, Mayors for Peace will use these tragic examples of the use of other weapons of mass destruction to further our goal of a nuclear-weapons-free world.

Mayors for Peace has been a humanitarian organization since its founding in 1982 by the Mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Cities join first and foremost out of human solidarity with the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, especially the survivors of 1945. Membership has grown to 5,712 member cities in 157 countries/regions, and we now represent more than 1 billion people. We shall further enhance our capacity to serve member cities and support their activities, and call upon others to join our efforts to further nuclear abolition and peace. Finally, whatever the source of radiation may be, we must do everything we can to prevent any more hibakusha anywhere.



Mayors for Peace calls on the United Nations and all governments to take the following measures:

1. To make sure that policy makers and officials from governments and international agencies responsible for nuclear disarmament visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki in order to deepen their understanding of the indescribable human tragedy of the atomic bombings, and disseminate the earnest wish of the atomic bomb survivors for the abolition of nuclear weapons
2. To establish policies and frameworks for confidence-building measures among nations to make sure that nuclear weapons will never be used again
3. To aim for the early implementation of a nuclear weapons convention, or other effective means of establishing a nuclear-weapons-free world, and to start concrete negotiations towards its conclusion
4. To actively work on replacing the current security system of nuclear deterrence, which attempts to maintain peace through the threatened use of nuclear weapons, with one rooted in a shared sense of community as fellow members of one human family, taking into account experiences gained by regional communities such as the EU, ASEAN, and CELAC.

Addressing the above points, at its 8th General Conference, Mayors for Peace adopted a dynamic Action Plan for the period from 2013 to 2017. We hereby pledge to make every endeavor to achieve the abolition of nuclear weapons by 2020.

August 5, 2013  
The 8th General Conference of Mayors for Peace  
Hiroshima



# Covenant of the Mayors for Peace

In August, 1945, the first nuclear weapons ever used in human history caused an indescribable catastrophe for the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Even now a number of A-bomb survivors are still suffering physically, psychologically, and socially from various after-effects. Nevertheless, nuclear weapons have not been abolished; they continue to threaten human existence. Our goal is to maintain environments that enable citizens to lead safe, cultural lives, and to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace. To this end, we pledge to make every effort to create an inter-city solidarity transcending national boundaries and ideological differences in order to achieve the total abolition of nuclear weapons and avert the recurrence of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki tragedies.

We agree to the intent of the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" proposed by Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Furthermore, we hope that the "World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity," which held its first session in August of 1985, shall become a permanent organization. Accordingly, we do hereby establish an organization to be known as the "Mayors for Peace".

## CHAPTER I PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

### *Purposes*

#### ARTICLE 1

The Purposes of the "Mayors for Peace" are to contribute to the attainment of lasting world peace by arousing concern among citizens of the world for the total abolition of nuclear weapons through close solidarity among all cities which agree to the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" as well as by striving to solve vital problems for the human race such as starvation and poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation. (Cities which agree to the "Program to Promote Solidarity of Cities towards the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons" are hereinafter cited as solidarity cities.)

### *Purposes*

#### ARTICLE 2

The Organization and solidarity cities, in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1, shall act in accordance with the following Principles;

- (a) The Organization shall be based on friendship, goodwill, and respect for the actual conditions of Solidarity Cities.
- (b) The Organization shall devote itself to the total abolition of nuclear weapons and the attainment of lasting world peace, and to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation in cooperation with the United Nations, a major peace-keeping organization in the world.
- (c) Solidarity Cities shall work for the development of friendly relationships and bonds of solidarity among cities on the basis of mutual understanding and shall act in good faith for the attainment of the Purposes in accordance with the present Covenant.
- (d) Solidarity Cities shall seek to increase global awareness of the "Spirit of Hiroshima and Nagasaki" by introducing and expanding the idea of Inter-City Solidarity.

## CHAPTER II ACTIVITIES

### *Details of the Activities*

#### ARTICLE 3

The Organization, in pursuit of the Purposes stated in Article 1, shall be engaged in the following activities;

- (a) To introduce and expand the idea of inter-city solidarity to worldwide cities.
- (b) To make an appeal for the total abolition of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament to related organizations such as the United Nations.
- (c) To coordinate the following activities promoted by Solidarity Cities.
  - (i) Solidarity Cities shall hold gatherings and events devoted to the cause of disarmament and peace, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights

abuses, and environmental degradation and shall send copies of any statement, resolution, or proclamation, associated with these events, to other Solidarity Cities.

- (ii) Solidarity cities shall transmit messages advocating the total abolition of nuclear weapons and



general and complete disarmament to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations during the United Nations Disarmament Week. In addition, copies of the messages shall be exchanged with other Solidarity Cities.

- (iii) Solidarity Cities that sponsor workshops or meetings on peace, disarmament, and security issues, and/or the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation shall send relevant pamphlets, books, and materials reporting these results to other Solidarity Cities.
  - (iv) Solidarity Cities that publish or obtain materials, brochures, or books related to peace, disarmament, and security issues, and/or to the solution of such problems as starvation, poverty, the plight of refugees, human rights abuses, and environmental degradation shall bring them to the attention of other Solidarity Cities.
  - (v) Bearing in mind the current international situation and the urgency and importance of nuclear disarmament, Solidarity Cities shall hold photographic exhibitions which describe and depict to citizens around the world the actual nature of the devastations wreaked by the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
  - (vi) The cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki shall cooperate by providing necessary exhibition photographs and introducing documentary films, slides, and books, that depict the disaster caused by the atomic bombings.
- (d) To sponsor and organize events as may be necessary to achieve the Purposes stated in the present Covenant.

### **CHAPTER III** **EXECUTIVE OFFICIALS**

#### *Executive Officials*

#### **ARTICLE 4**

1. Executive Officials of the Organization shall consist of: one President; an appropriate number of Vice-Presidents and Executive Members.
2. The President and the Vice-President shall be elected by Solidarity Cities.
3. The President shall supervise and represent the Organization, and shall chair the Conference.
4. The Vice-President shall assist the President. In case of the inability of the President to carry out the duties of the office, the Vice-President shall fulfill the duties of the President.
5. The Executive Members shall be appointed from Solidarity Cities by the President with regional conditions taken into consideration.
6. The Executive Members shall assist the President and the Vice-President and shall act for the smooth management of the Organization.

#### *Term of Office*

#### **ARTICLE 5**

1. The term of office of the Executive Officials shall be until such time that new Executive Officials are elected at a succeeding General Conference. Each office shall be open to reelection.
2. Whatever the stipulations of previous clauses, if a member-city mayor holding an elected office resigns or retires his or her mayoralty, the succeeding mayor shall assume said office. In such case, the succeeding officer's term shall last as long as the original term of the retiring or resigning officer.

### **CHAPTER IV** **CONFERENCE**

#### *General Conference and Executive Conference*

#### **ARTICLE 6**

The Organization shall hold a General Conference and an Executive Conference.

#### *General Conference*

#### **ARTICLE 7**

1. The General Conference shall meet every four years in principle.
2. The General Conference shall be held to achieve the Purposes stated in Article 1 and to decide and approve relevant questions.

#### *Executive Conference*

#### **ARTICLE 8**

1. The Executive Conference shall consist of the Executive Officials and shall meet when the occasion arises.
2. The Executive Conference shall be authorized to make emergency decisions for the Organization in place of the General Conference with the exception of electing the President and the Vice-President.



*Convocation*

**ARTICLE 9**

The General Conference or the Executive Conference shall be convoked by the President.

*Voting*

**ARTICLE 10**

1. Each Solidarity City participating in the General Conference or the Executive Conference shall have one vote. In case of absence, each Solidarity City may delegate its vote by proxy to another participating city.
2. Decisions of the Conference on all questions shall be made by a simple majority vote of participating cities. In case of tie votes, the President shall cast a deciding vote.
3. When circumstances render it impossible to hold a Conference, decisions shall be made by votes conveyed in letters to the Secretariat from Solidarity Cities.

**CHAPTER V**

**THE SECRETARIAT**

*Establishment of the Secretariat*

**ARTICLE 11**

The Secretariat shall be established in the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation to operate the Organization.

*Secretariat Staff*

**ARTICLE 12**

1. The Secretariat shall be comprised of a Secretary General and Under-Secretary General, and support-staff.
2. The Chairperson of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation shall serve as Secretary General.
3. The Executive Director of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation shall serve as the Under-Secretary General.
4. The staff except the Secretary General and Under-Secretary General shall be appointed by the President.
5. The Secretary General shall preside over the duties of the Secretariat.
6. The Under-Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General. In case of the inability of the Secretary General to carry out the duties of the office, or if the post is vacant, the Under-Secretary General shall fulfill the duties of the Secretary General.

**CHAPTER VI**

**SHARE OF EXPENSES**

*Expenses*

**ARTICLE 13**

Expenses required to operate the Secretariat (ordinary expenditure) and expenses required to hold the Conference (extraordinary expenditure) shall be decided by the General Conference on the recommendation of the Executive Conference.

**CHAPTER VII**

**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

*Amendments*

**ARTICLE 14**

Amendments to the present Covenant shall come into force upon adoption by a two-thirds majority of the participating cities at the General Conference.

*Delegation*

**ARTICLE 15**

Decisions required to operate the Secretariat, other than those stipulated in the present Covenant, shall be made by the President.

This covenant was executed on November 1, 1986.

Revised on October 16, 1991, effective the same day.

Revised on August 5, 2001, effective the same day.

Revised on August 6, 2013, effective the same day



# Mayors for Peace Membership by Country

July 1, 2015

No	Area	Countries & Regions	Cities
1	Asia	Afghanistan	2
2	30 countries & regions 2,696 cities	Bangladesh	21
3		Bhutan	1
4		Cambodia	2
5		China	7
6		Cyprus	5
7		India	19
8		Indonesia	3
9		Iran	692
10		Iraq	139
11		Israel	56
12		Japan	1,564
13		Jordan	2
14		Lebanon	1
15		Malaysia	9
16		Mongolia	4
17		Nepal	9
18		Northern Cyprus	4
19		Pakistan	13
20		Palestine	28
21		Philippines	23
22		Saudi Arabia	1
23		South Korea	12
24		Sri Lanka	41
25		Syrian Arab Republic	2
26		Taiwan	3
27		Thailand	13
28		Turkey	14
29		Viet Nam	4
30		Yemen	2
31		Africa	Algeria
32	46 countries & regions 359 cities	Benin	6
33		Bots wana	4
34		Burkina Faso	2
35		Burundi	1
36		Cameroon	91
37		Cape Verde	2
38		Central African Republic	1
39		Chad	1
40		Comoros	3
41		Republic of Congo	1
42		Cote d'Ivoire	2
43		Democratic Republic of the Congo	1
44		Djibouti	1
45		Egypt	3
46		Eritrea	2
47		Ethiopia	8
48		Gambia	3
49		Ghana	33
50		Guinea	2
51		Kenya	4
52		Lesotho	1
53		Liberia	1
54		Madagascar	7
55		Malawi	2
56		Mali	5
57		Mauritania	4
58		Mauritius	1
59		Morocco	6
60		Mozambique	2
61		Namibia	1
62	Niger	1	
63	Nigeria	5	
64	Rwanda	1	
65	Sao Tome and Principe	2	
66	Senegal	74	
67	Seychells	1	
68	Sierra Leone	1	
69	Somalia	1	
70	Somaliland	1	
71	South Africa	9	
72	South Sudan	1	
73	Tanzania	2	
74	Togo	2	
75	Uganda	53	
76	Zambia	3	
77	Oceania	Australia	87
78	9 countries & regions 128 cities	Fiji	2
79		French Polynesia	1
80		Marshall Islands	2
81		Micronesia	2
82		New Zealand	30
83		Northern Mariana Islands	2
84		Papua New Guinea	1
85		Solomon Islands	1

No	Area	Countries & Regions	Cities
86	Europe	Albania	2
87	47 countries 2,572 cities	Andorra	2
88		Armenia	1
89		Austria	112
90		Belarus	2
91		Belgium	378
92		Bosnia and Herzegovina	10
93		Bulgaria	9
94		Croatia	34
95		Czech	29
96		Denmark	13
97		Estonia	4
98		Finland	3
99		France	152
100		Georgia	1
101		Germany	426
102		Greece	18
103		Hungary	5
104		Iceland	3
105		Ireland	11
106		Italy	478
107		Kazakhstan	15
108		Kosovo	1
109		Kyrgyz	1
110		Latvia	4
111		Lithuania	2
112		Luxembourg	55
113		Macedonia	1
114		Malta	1
115		Moldova	2
116		Montenegro	1
117	Netherlands	128	
118	Norway	100	
119	Poland	8	
120	Portugal	38	
121	Romania	4	
122	Russia	67	
123	Serbia	3	
124	Slovakia	2	
125	Slovenia	6	
126	Spain	305	
127	Sweden	26	
128	Switzerland	21	
129	Tajikistan	2	
130	U.K.	78	
131	Ukraine	5	
132	Uzbekistan	3	
133	North America	Canada	102
134	3 countries & regions 307 cities	Greenland	1
135		U.S.A.	204
136	Latin America and Caribbean	Argentina	56
137	25 countries & regions 671 cities	Bolivia	3
138		Brazil	101
139		Chile	22
140		Columbia	16
141		Costa Rica	47
142		Cuba	2
143		Dominica	1
144		Dominican Republic	33
145		Ecuador	12
146		El Salvador	18
147		Guatemala	4
148		Guyana	1
149		Haiti	4
150		Honduras	3
151		Jamaica	1
152		Mexico	80
153		Nicaragua	155
154		Panama	1
155		Paraguay	26
156		Peru	41
157		Puerto Rico	13
158		Trinidad Tobago	2
159		Uruguay	4
160		Venezuela	25

Please refer to the list of member cities at:  
<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/map.html>

**6,733 member cities in 160 countries and regions**

