



Mayors for Peace News Flash

June 2018 / No.102

Mayors for Peace Member Cities
7,595 cities
in 163 countries and regions
(as of June 1, 2018)

Please also check our website and Facebook page:

Website:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/index.html>

Facebook:

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

“Like” our Facebook page to help spread awareness of our mission.

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■ Attendance of Mayors for Peace President at the Annual Meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors

[Boston (MA), Cambridge (MA), Washington, D.C.; June 8-11, 2018]

Mr. Kazumi Matsui, Mayor of Hiroshima and President of Mayors for Peace, visited the U.S. to attend the 86th Annual Meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) held in Boston, MA.

The USCM is a nonpartisan association of American cities with populations over 30,000 or more established in 1932. During the Conference’s Annual Meeting in June, many mayors get together from all over the U.S. to discuss effective city management policies on various issues such as international affairs and the environment, among others.

On June 10, Mayor Matsui had the opportunity to deliver his message at the meeting’s plenary luncheon, in which he introduced that Mayors for Peace is working to achieve two key objectives: “Realization of a world without nuclear weapons” and “Realization of safe and resilient cities”, which we believe will lead us to our ultimate goal, lasting world peace. He expressed his hope that U.S.



Mayor Matsui delivering a message at the USCM annual meeting

member cities, led by Des Moines, the U.S. Mayors for Peace Lead City, will engage in proactive activities of their own and take initiative in realizing a peaceful world, asking the mayors in attendance for support of and understanding of Mayors for Peace activities.

While he was in the U.S., Mayor Matsui also visited Cambridge, MA to give a talk to local high school students and also Washington, D.C. where he was invited to join a discussion at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

A detailed report of Mayor Matsui's trip to the U.S. will be posted on the Mayors for Peace website soon.

▼ Mayor Matsui's speech at the USCM's 86th Annual Meeting (Mayors for Peace website):

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/jp/whatsnew/news/data/20180607/Mayor%20Matsui's%20USCM%20speech.en.pdf>

▼ Mayor Matsui's speech at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/jp/whatsnew/news/data/20180607/Matsui_speech_Carnegie_2018_en.pdf

■ U.S. Conference of Mayors Adopts New Resolution Calling for Nuclear Disarmament

[Boston, MA (U.S.); June 11, 2018]

On June 11, at the close of its 86th Annual Meeting which was held in Boston, MA, the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) unanimously adopted a sweeping resolution "Calling on the Administration and Congress to Step Back From the Brink and Exercise Global Leadership in Preventing Nuclear War".

The resolution was sponsored by T.M. Franklin Cownie, Mayor of Des Moines, Iowa which is a Vice-President of Mayors for Peace and a Lead City, and 25 co-sponsors including USCM President Steve Benjamin, Mayor of Columbia, South Carolina and USCM International Affairs Committee Chair Nan Whaley, Mayor of Dayton, Ohio.

The USCM, a nonpartisan association of 1,408 American cities with populations over 30,000, has unanimously adopted Mayors for Peace resolutions for 13 consecutive years. Resolutions adopted at annual meetings become USCM official policy.

<Report by Jackie Cabasso, Mayors for Peace North American Coordinator>

▼ Full text of the resolution with the complete list of sponsors (Mayors for Peace website):

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/ecbn/resolution/20180612.html>

▼ Official version on the USCM website (scroll down to the 4th resolution):

http://legacy.usmayors.org/resolutions/86th_Conference/proposedcommittee-preview.asp?committee=International%20Affairs

■ Total Number of Iranian Member Cities Exceeds 1,000

As of June 1, 2018, the number of Iranian member cities reached 1,003. This record was achieved by the continued efforts of the staff and volunteers at the Tehran Peace Museum who have been consistently communicating with non-member cities in Iran and asking them to join the organization. The City of Tehran has been a Lead City of Mayors for Peace since 2017 and the Iranian Secretariat of Mayors for Peace is housed within the Tehran Peace Museum. Iran is now home to the second largest number of Mayors for Peace member cities in the world after Japan.

The Iranian Secretariat of Mayors for Peace wishes to invite the remaining cities to join the organization and also further activate the current network of Iranian member cities.

< Report by Fateme Babaha, a volunteer member of the staff at the Iranian Secretariat of Mayors for Peace >

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180619_Iran_membership.html

■Open Letter to the G7 Leaders Signed by Mayors for Peace

In conjunction with the G7 Summit held in Charlevoix in Québec, Canada on June 8 and 9, the City of Montréal, an Executive City of Mayors for Peace, launched an initiative to issue an open letter addressed to the leaders of the G7.

The letter highlights that international organizations of local authorities offer national leaders our cooperation in tackling various challenges that cities and local governments are facing around the world, including terrorism and the destruction of the environment.

Taking into account that this initiative is within the scope of one of the key objectives of the Mayors for Peace Action Plan, namely "Realization of safe and resilient cities", upon receiving our executive members' consent, we decided to support this initiative and the President of Mayors for Peace signed the letter together with ten other global associations of local authorities including Metropolis, UCLG, etc.

▼The open letter to the G7 leaders (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/news/data/20180604/2018_G7_letter_en.PDF

■Mayors for Peace Collaboration with "The Hibakusha Appeal" Signature Campaign

Based on the Action Plan decided at the 9th General Conference in August 2017, Mayors for Peace is promoting a petition drive urging the nuclear-armed states and their allies to participate in the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. It was also decided that in doing so, Mayors for Peace would collaborate with "The Hibakusha Appeal", a signature campaign launched by the hibakusha of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Mayors for Peace Secretariat will compile the number of signatures collected and present it to affiliates of the United Nations.

▼For more information about "The Hibakusha Appeal":



■100 Day Countdown Message for the International Day of Peace

The United Nations has established September 21 as the International Day of Peace (IDP) and an annual day of non-violence and cease-fire. Mayors for Peace has been a long-time supporter of the IDP and encourages all member cities to commemorate the International Day of Peace on September 21.

On June 13, the President of Mayors for Peace issued a message for the 100-day countdown to the IDP, inviting all members to commemorate the 2018 International Day of Peace in their city.

▼Message for the International Day of Peace, 100-Day Countdown by the President of Mayors for Peace (Mayors for Peace website):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/statement/mailmag/pdf/180613_IDP100day_message_E.pdf

▼International Day of Peace 21 September (The United Nations website):

<http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/>

<<PLEASE SEND INFORMATION ON YOUR CITY'S 2018 IDP EVENT >>

If your city is planning to organize an event to commemorate the IDP, please send an event report to our secretariat. We will share the report on the Mayors for Peace website, etc.

▼Please mail us with an outline of your event at:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

■ Report of the 10th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace

On April 26, the 10th Mayors for Peace Executive Conference was held in Geneva, Switzerland. Representatives of 10 Executive Cities took the opportunity to discuss strategies to promote the Mayors for Peace Action Plan adopted at last year's General Conference and also exchange views on strengthening activities led by Lead Cities and expanding Mayors for Peace membership. The outline of the meeting has been posted on the Mayors for Peace website:

▼ The 10th Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace:
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/directors/10th_directors.html

■ Request for Payment of the 2018 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee

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 April 16, 2018) 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 2017-2020.

A request for payment of the 2018 membership fee was sent to each city by email on April 2. We deeply appreciate your kind cooperation.

▼ Request for the 2018 Mayors for Peace Membership Fee (Mayors for Peace website):
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/outlines/membership_fee.html

■ Member City Activities

< Manchester, UK >

***Manchester City Council seeks to create new contemplative Peace Garden**

A Vice President of Mayors for Peace, Manchester City Council, has announced a £4 million plan for a new contemplative Peace Garden as part of a major renovation of Lincoln Square, near the Town Hall. It is envisioned as a quiet oasis of calm in the city centre and will also be connected to the Manchester City Centre Peace Trail, of which a newly updated Children's Peace Trail is in production.

The new garden will be anchored by the city's statue of Abraham Lincoln and it will also feature two ginkgo trees grown from the seeds of a tree that survived the bombing in Hiroshima. Other ginkgo trees Manchester has received have been planted at schools and also at the Manchester Children's Hospital.

< Report by Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary >

▼ Full report on the Mayors for Peace website:
http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/180619_Manchester_peace_garden.html

▼ Further information on the news (Manchester Evening News website):
<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/lincoln-square-set-become-home-14724215>

▼ Further information on Manchester Peace Trail (European Discovering Peace website):
<http://www.discoverpeace.eu/choose-a-city>

< Manchester and Stockport, UK >

***Manchester and Stockport host Belarusian delegation learning about health and social care programmes**

In a visit coordinated by Chernobyl Children's Project, UK, Mayors for Peace members Manchester and Stockport hosted a delegation from Belarus, in order to improve ways to care for vulnerable children and young adults. Greater Manchester has been the first part of the UK to see health and social care services merge, and the delegation wanted to know the benefits and challenges of this process.

The project brought the Vice Governor of the Gomel region, Vladimir Privalov, and senior managers to see a number of programmes around Manchester and Stockport. They also met with the Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor June Hitchen, and senior Children's and Adults' Services managers from Manchester City Council and the National Health Service.

< Report by Sean Morris, UK & Ireland Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary >

▼ Full report with photos on the Mayors for Peace website:

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/whatsnew/activity/data/2018/Belarus_Gomel_visit_to_Manchester.pdf

▼ Chernobyl Children's Project UK

<http://www.chernobyl-children.org.uk>

<<PLEASE SEND US INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CITY'S PEACE ACTIVITIES>>

Please help us tell others about what you are doing! We can create a link to your city's website or the website of your peace event to help you advertise. Please send us information including the date, venue, organizers and a description of the event. We look forward to receiving information from your city.

▼ Please send a report about your event to the Mayors for Peace Secretariat at:

mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

▼ List of peace events as based on those in the Mayors for Peace Action Plan (As of June 11):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018_List_of_Activities_en.pdf

■ "Peace News from Hiroshima"

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

It was on May 27, 2016, that Barack Obama, who was then President of the United States, paid a visit to Hiroshima. Two years have now passed since that historic day in the A-bombed city.

A large crowd around the perimeter of the Peace Memorial Park was there to welcome Mr. Obama, and his speech was broadcast to the whole world. These were some of the words he spoke: "But among those nations like my own that hold nuclear stockpiles, we must have the courage to escape the logic of fear, and pursue a world without them."

As president of the nation which carried out the first atomic attack in human history, Mr. Obama did not mention U.S. responsibility for the bombing or offer an apology. Some criticized this stance. But his visit to Hiroshima was certainly significant in the fact that the President of the United States stressed the importance of pursuing a world without nuclear weapons.

Over the last two years, however, the world seems to have moved away from this vision. Though the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted at the United Nations last year, it has not gained the support of the nuclear-armed nations, like the United States, or Japan, which itself experienced the atomic bombings. In addition, North Korea's nuclear ambitions have been a matter of grave concern. At this point, it appears that negotiations have opened the door toward a possible resolution to the problem of North Korea's nuclear arsenal. In this connection, we hope that U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un will have the courage, like Mr. Obama, to visit the A-bombed city of Hiroshima.

Visit the following links for articles from the Hiroshima Peace Media Center.

- News reporters exchange views on significance Obama's visit

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=83067>

- Austria's parliament speaker visits Hiroshima

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=83064>

- 114 volumes of register for A-bomb victims are aired in Peace Memorial Park

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=83004>

- Children's Peace Monument marks 60th anniversary

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=82666>

- Editorial: U.S.-North Korea summit

<http://www.hiroshimapeacemedia.jp/?p=83218>

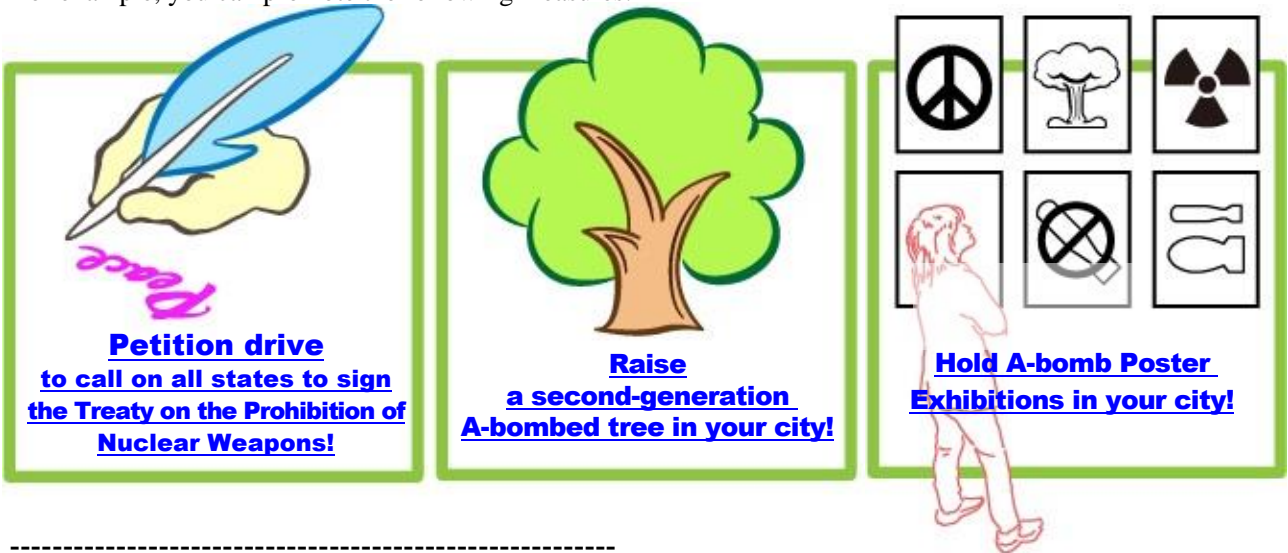
Request to Promote Various Measures Based on the New Action Plan (2017-2020)

At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki in August 2017, we decided our Action Plan for up to the year 2020, aiming for lasting world peace. Together, we hope to make significant strides toward realizing this goal. Please promote all appropriate measures based on the Action Plan within your own municipality or regional group.

▼ Mayors for Peace Action Plan (2017-2020):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/report/meeting/data/9th_meeting/Action_Plan_2017-2020_E.pdf

For example, you can promote the following measures:



Last Month's Visitors to the President of Mayors for Peace

President Kazumi Matsui welcomed the following visitors last month and asked them to support the activities of Mayors for Peace and cooperate towards membership expansion.

*May 17 - H.E. Mr. Reinhard Todt, President of the Federal Council of the Republic of Austria

*May 25 - H.E. Mr. Francisco Xavier Esteves, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Portugal to Japan

Mayors for Peace Member Cities - 7,595 Cities in 163 Countries/Regions

Thanks to your invaluable support, on June 1, we added 17 new member cities, bringing the total membership to 7,595.

From Germany, we welcomed eight cities thanks to the continued efforts of Hannover, a Vice President and Lead City of the German Chapter of Mayors for Peace. We also welcomed six cities from Iran, two cities from Japan, and one city from Greece this month.

We encourage further initiatives to promote membership and can provide support from Hiroshima as needed. Please continue inviting mayors who are not yet members to join Mayors for Peace.

▼ List of New Members (PDF):

http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/data/pdf/03_newmembers/2018/newmembers1806_en.pdf

▼ Map of Member Cities:

<http://www.mayorsforpeace.org/english/membercity/map.html>

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

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