



## Mayors for Peace

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### Secretariat

C/O Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, 1-2 Nakajima-cho Naka-ku Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan  
Phone:81-82-242-7821 Fax:81-82-242-7452 E-mail:mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp

A Message from Mayor Tadatashi Akiba, President of Mayors for Peace and Mayor of the City of Hiroshima, Japan, to Mayors and Citizens throughout the World:

**Today begins the One-Hundred-Day Countdown to the International Day of Peace, commemorated annually worldwide on September 21<sup>st</sup>.**

This year the United Nations is calling for the **International Day of Peace** to be focused on Disarmament with the theme of **“We Must Disarm! Take action for a world free of nuclear weapons.”** We welcome the United Nation’s initiative and call on all our members, and citizens everywhere, to take this opportunity to draw public attention to this vital cause and the importance of a Nuclear Weapons Free World. We ask you to join with other activities around the world which will be observing a minute of silence at 12 noon on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

As a Nuclear Weapons Free World is the very reason for the existence of Mayors for Peace and our 2020 Vision Campaign, please use the One-Hundred-Day Countdown to make outstanding plans for the period leading up to the International Day of Peace. Mayors, please let your citizens know that City Hall is ready and willing to get involved. We encourage you to acknowledge the 64<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of both Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days during the One-Hundred-Day Countdown. And then, let us know both what you have planned and, after the fact, how it worked out, including media coverage. These One Hundred Days can be a great asset in preparing for the International Decade for Disarmament, 2010-2020 to ensure that it is a decisive decade for nuclear disarmament. Please visit our 2020 Vision Campaign website at: <http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/> to learn more about the calendar of activities in the Campaign.

Through this upsurge of activities we will be demonstrating that something new is afoot; nuclear weapons are on their way out. The vast majority of humanity is now demanding it. In fact, we are the Obamajority, inspired by the President of the United States, who said in Prague this April, “We have to insist, ‘Yes, we can!’ ... Human destiny will be what we make of it.”

So let’s make plans to acknowledge and participate in the International Day of Peace and the International Decade for Disarmament!

June 13, 2009

Tadatashi Akiba  
Mayor of Hiroshima  
President  
Mayors for Peace

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The information below is presented in an organized form at the link:

I urge you, for example, to make use of the Peace Declaration I will issue on August 6<sup>th</sup>, the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the destruction of Hiroshima. The next day, Mayors for Peace will start its 7<sup>th</sup> General Conference in Nagasaki. Please look for the Statement coming from that gathering of Mayors. A month later, the United Nations 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual DPI/NGO Conference will be held in Mexico City; the Conference is devoted this year to Disarmament with the theme of **“For Peace and Development: Disarm Now!”**

All this activity, and activities associated with the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual UN Day, celebrated on October 24<sup>th</sup>, and Disarmament Week in late October, should be seen as preparation for the International Decade for Disarmament, 2010-2020. Mayors for Peace will be issuing its plans for the Decade in Nagasaki in August to promote achievement of its 2020 Vision, a nuclear-weapon free world in 2020. We encourage every civil society organization to generate its own ‘2020 Vision’ in its field of endeavor and to formulate plans to realize this vision to be carried out during the Disarmament Decade.