



Mayors for Peace

% Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation, 1-5 Nakajima-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan
Phone: +81-82-242-7821 Fax: +81-82-242-7452 Email: mayorcon@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp
Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

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Dear Members of Mayors for Peace,

**Request for efforts encouraging all states to join
the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible**

I trust this letter finds you well. We appreciate your ongoing support for Mayors for Peace activities.

As you all know, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the first legally-binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, was adopted in July. On September 20, the treaty opened for signatures at the UN headquarters in New York. Fifty states had signed the treaty by the end of the day, which we see as a significant step forward along the road to a future without nuclear weapons.

Yet, amid rising global tensions over DPRK, some people argue that resolving such issues require measures based on nuclear deterrence. With such arguments, none of the nuclear-armed states and their allies intend to ratify the treaty. We need to focus now to encourage these states relying on nuclear weapons to sit at the same table with the parties to the treaty and to engage in constructive dialogues on advancing concrete measures to effectively achieve nuclear abolition. The consolidated efforts among wide range of civil society are essential in order to facilitate such dialogues and to create a heightened drive for all the states to join the treaty. Your efforts in this endeavor are very important to achieving our shared cause.

At the 9th General Conference of Mayors for Peace held in Nagasaki in August, we adopted a new Action Plan to carry us through to the year 2020. Among the high-priority action items are our efforts to call on all states to join the treaty as soon as possible and to promote the petition drive to this end. We would welcome from you any activity reports and suggestions to further expand these initiatives.

As to the petition drive, today we are pleased to attach herewith a new petition form, which has been revised based on the decisions at the General Conference. The form can also be downloaded on the Mayors for Peace website. An online petition is also available.

Our fellow member cities, aiming for our milestone year of 2020, let us all work together to advance toward realizing lasting world peace, making the most of our strong network among us and beyond. We sincerely ask for your ongoing support and cooperation regarding our future initiatives.

Sincerely yours,

Yasuyoshi Komizo
Secretary General of Mayors for Peace