



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mayors for Peace Receive 2004 World Citizenship Award

Santa Barbara, CA and Hiroshima, Japan (September 15, 2004) – The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is pleased to announce it will honor the Mayors for Peace with the Foundation's 2004 World Citizenship Award. The World Citizenship Award is presented annually for outstanding contributions to strengthening the human family. The award will be presented to the Mayors for Peace in a ceremony on Friday, October 8th, 2004 in the Memorial Hall of the Hiroshima Peace Museum in Hiroshima, Japan. Mayor Tadatashi Akiba of Hiroshima, President of the Mayors for Peace, will accept the award on behalf of the organization.

In August 1945, atomic bombs instantaneously reduced the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to rubble, taking hundreds of thousands of precious lives. Today, nearly sixty years after the war, thousands of citizens still suffer the devastating aftereffects of radiation and unfathomable emotional pain. To prevent any repetition of the A-bomb tragedy, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have continually sought to tell the world about the inhumane cruelty of nuclear weapons and have consistently urged that nuclear weapons be abolished.

The Mayors for Peace was established in 1982 and is composed of mayors in some 619 cities in 109 countries around the world that have formally expressed their support for a program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities Toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons. Currently, Hiroshima Mayor Tadatashi Akiba serves as President and Nagasaki Mayor Iccho Itoh serves as Vice President of the Mayors for Peace.

In 2003, the Mayors for Peace, led by Mayors Akiba and Itoh, launched an Emergency Campaign to Ban Nuclear Weapons. The goal of the campaign is to garner

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support from mayors around the world, to educate citizens and pressure the nuclear weapons states to begin in 2005 and conclude by 2010 negotiations for a verifiable ban on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2020.

Inaugurated in 1998, past recipients of the Foundation's World Citizenship Award include Ted Turner, Queen Noor of Jordan, Daisaku Ikeda, Dr. Robert Muller and, most recently, Harry Belafonte.

For more than 20 years, the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation has been committed to advancing initiatives to eliminate the nuclear weapons threat to all life, to fostering the global rule of law, and to building an enduring legacy of peace through education and advocacy. The Nuclear Age Peace Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan international organization on the Roster in consultative status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

For more information on the Mayors for Peace, please visit <http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/mayors/english/>. For more information on the World Citizenship Award, please visit the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation's website at <http://www.wagingpeace.org/menu/programs/awards-&-contests/wca-award/index.htm> or contact Carah Ong, Communications Director at Cell: (805) 896-1909 or email cong@napf.org.

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