

Cities Appeal in support of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol

Mindful that according to the United Nations Population Fund, "In 2008, for the first time in history, more than half of the world's population will be living in towns and cities;" and that United Cities and Local Governments is recognized by UN agencies as the voice of cities worldwide;

Taking, in this regard, special note of the support expressed in the 2007 Jeju Declaration of the Second World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments for "the Mayors for Peace campaign, which lobbies the international community to renounce weapons of mass destruction;"

Noting that while the Biological Weapons Convention and the Chemical Weapons Convention prohibit the acquisition of such weapons of mass destruction without exemption, the Treaty of the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) exempts five "nuclear-weapons States" from the prohibition on the acquisition of nuclear weapons;

Underscoring that the aforementioned exemption was never meant to be permanent as all States were obligated to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to ... nuclear disarmament;"

Recalling that, in 2005, a Mayors for Peace statement based on a resolution of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and signed by 575 mayors worldwide called upon State Parties to the NPT to take a decision to commence negotiation on the elimination of nuclear weapons and weapon-usable fissile material, and that this resolution was presented in the Great Hall of the General Assembly to the NPT Review Conference President;

Alarmed that not only did the 2005 NPT Review Conference fail to reach agreement on any decisions whatsoever and but also that no negotiations whatsoever have occurred in the years since to advance the objective of nuclear disarmament;

Mindful that the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2020 has become more difficult because of this lack of progress and other adverse developments, but convinced that with a rededication to good faith efforts the objective is still achievable;

Welcoming wholeheartedly the 62nd UN General Assembly decision to begin preparations for a UN Decade for Disarmament, 2010-2020;

We the undersigned elected representatives of citizens of our cities:

Call upon all people to contribute to the preparations for the UN Decade for Disarmament;

Pledge to do our utmost to ensure that it will be a decisive decade for nuclear disarmament;

Call upon the State Parties to the NPT to ensure that the current NPT review process lays the foundation for actual nuclear disarmament during the UN Disarmament Decade and, to that end, urge each Head of Government to lead the government delegation to the 2010 Review Conference and to include in the delegation at least one representative of the nation's cities;

Recommend for the immediate consideration of all States, not least each of our own, the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol (appended) as a direct means of fulfilling the promise of the NPT by the year 2020, thereby meeting the obligation found by the International Court of Justice "to conclude negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspect under strict and effective international control;"

Challenge all States to adopt the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Protocol without delay and to undertake in good faith to present to the 65th General Assembly in September 2010 the envisioned Nuclear Weapons Convention or Framework Agreement.

Signature: _____

Antonio R. Villaraigosa Name: _____



Position [Mayor, City Councilor, or other elected local authority representative]: _____

Mayor

Name of the local authority: _____

City of Los Angeles Country: _____

California U.S.A.

NOTE: Signing the Appeal does not make you a member of Mayors for Peace. If you wish to affiliate your city with Mayors for Peace please use the REGISTRATION FORM link at http://www.2020visioncampaign.org/files/M4P_Registration_Form.pdf