



In recognition of a significant contribution to the programme and objectives of the International Year of Peace, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly, the Secretary-General designates

City of Yokohama



as a Peace Messenger

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International Year of Peace [Yokohama recognized as a Peace Messenger City by the UN]

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New ordinance promoting efforts towards international peace

Through a proposal by a member of the City Council, the City of Yokohama has announced and implemented a new city ordinance to promote international peace. As a Peace Messenger City designated by the United Nations, the city will continue to coordinate with and provide cooperation to cities and international organizations as well as advance initiatives to build a multicultural society in efforts to achieve peace.



Regulation available here in Japanese:
<http://www.city.yokohama.lg.jp/kokusai/peace/regulation/index>



Yokohama participates in "Ima no Africa" festival to bring continent closer to Tokyo

The African Diplomatic Corps (ADC) presented "Ima no Africa," an event to showcase the Africa of today, on July 16-17 Hibiya Park, Tokyo.



With the aim of deepening awareness and understanding of Africa, the inaugural festival welcomed visitors to discover Africa through a variety of activities - dance and musical performances, diverse specialty dishes, workshops to experience African culture, and booths for the diplomatic missions of the ADC 38 members.



Yokohama also presented a booth where visitors could learn the city's history of exchange with Africa through panel displays, test their TICAD knowledge in a quiz, make souvenir badges, and more.



At the opening ceremony on June 16, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Taro Kono, spoke on behalf of the Japanese government, and H.E. Mr. Estifanos, Ambassador of Eritrea, and H.E. Mr. Maina, Ambassador of Kenya, gave speeches as members the ADC. The Deputy Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Watanabe, and the President of the Japan-Africa Friendship Yokohama City Council Members' League, Mr. Sato, also attended the festival to represent the city and to join in the celebration of the unique event.

Colombia Ambassador visits Yokohama to meet with Mayor and speak at local university

H.E. Mr. Gabriel Duque, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Colombia to Japan, visited Yokohama and met with Mayor Hayashi on June 27.



This year (2018), Japan and Colombia will reach the 110th anniversary of their establishment of diplomatic relations. Mayor Hayashi shared her desire to contribute to the continued excellent relations of their two nations and exchanged views with the Ambassador. Specific topics included the recent intense match between the Japanese and Colombian teams at the World Cup as well as next month's Dance Dance Dance @Yokohama2018 event and the Colombian style of Salsa dancing.

Following the meeting, Ambassador Duque, who has given lectures in Colombia for many years, traveled to Yokohama National University to deliver a talk on the politics, economy, culture, and tourism in Colombia.