

Honorable mayors and distinguished guests,

We currently face two major crises: the threat of COVID-19 and the climate emergency. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on social and economic activities around the world, hitting vulnerable members of our societies the hardest. Moreover, the effects of global warming now reach our daily lives as never before, and we can no longer wait to take

action.

Overcoming the dual crises is the problem before us that we must solve to create a sustainable city.

To guide our efforts, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government announced Future Tokyo: Tokyo's Long-Term Strategy in March this year. The plan sets forth the strategies we will implement up to 2030 to achieve this vision.

Our strategy does not seek a simple return to pre-Covid life. It incorporates the perspective of a “sustainable recovery,” which aims to balance recovery from the pandemic and a sustainable way of life for people. Its policies also center on partnering with a variety of players to realize an inclusive society where “people shine” and “no one is left behind.”

As one of the core initiatives,

we have launched an aggressive and challenging project that goes beyond conventional thinking. We will transform Tokyo's Bay Area into a sustainable city that fuses nature and convenience and serves as a model for the world. Next week, the long-awaited Tokyo 2020 Games will open. We are also promoting a variety of initiatives at the Games. One such initiative is the use of metals harvested from used cell phones and other small

electronic devices to produce the medals that will be awarded. CO2-free hydrogen produced in Fukushima Prefecture will also be used as a source of power at the Olympic and Paralympic Village.

These policies are in line with the UN's Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, which covers the ten-year period starting from 2020. And, to further promote this

momentum together with other cities, today, we present Tokyo Sustainability Action as the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's Voluntary Local Review.

Now is the time for us to take action, especially as we face these major crises. And, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government will stand at the forefront of advancing initiatives. I hope that our initiatives will contribute to resolving

challenges shared by major cities.

Together let's advance a sustainable recovery in all areas, and progress toward a future filled with hope.

Thank you very much for listening.