

Mr. Toshihiko OTA
Mayor of Toyota City

**High-level Symposium on Sustainable Cities:
Connecting People, Environment and Technology
Co-convened by the United Nations and Toyota City**

Toyota City, Japan
15-16 January 2015

At this point I would like to thank you all. Firstly, let me thank from the bottom of my heart Division Director Nikhil Seth who served as the co-chair of this meeting. Thank you.

I also received the title of co-chair but actually Division Director Nikhil Seth facilitated the symposium by himself for these two days. Thank you so much. I am grateful.

Next I would like to thank everyone from the United Nations. I am grateful from the bottom of my heart for the support you gave to the staff at Toyota City over a long period of time. Thank you.

Furthermore, I am grateful to the moderators for carefully and skillfully organizing the meeting “in the style of Toyota Motor Corporation” while working within extremely tight time constraints. Thank you.

Finally, and most importantly, thank you so much to everyone who participated in this meeting. I believe that these two days were an extremely useful meeting for you all. I believe that a variety of truly broad-ranging and productive opinions were exchanged.

Through these two days I have felt once again how backgrounds and circumstances are truly different depending on the country and the region. I once again felt that the order of priorities in policies would naturally be quite different in each region.

It is management within the limited area of the Toyota municipal government but I

felt the importance of implementing regional management while having this kind of global perspective.

I believe that about 250 people from Japan and overseas have gathered in this venue for this event over these two days. A truly large number of people have gathered here.

However, considering that 7.3 billion people are living on our planet, I think that the number of people gathered here is truly very small. In that sense, I think that our encounter over these two days for this occasion is close to being a miracle.

Going forward I really want you to continue valuing this encounter over two days that was close to being a miracle.

Finally, let me say once again, welcome and thank you for coming to Toyota City. I am grateful from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to meet you all. I hope from the bottom of my heart that going forward we will continue to be good colleagues. Thank you.