HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES: CONNECTING PEOPLE, ENVIRONMENT AND TECHNOLOGY, CO-CONVENED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND TOYOTA CITY

Toyota City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, 15-16 January 2015

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Venue
The Symposium will be held at the Meitetsu Toyota Hotel, Toyota City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan:

Meitetsu Toyota Hotel
Address: 1-140 Kitamachi Toyota Aichi Japan 471-0027
Tel: +81-565-35-6611

Confirmation of Participation
Participation is by invitation only. Please confirm your participation by completing and returning by 1 December 2014, the attached registration form to Ms. Ningning Yang, email: yang21@un.org.

Main website of the Symposium
All information regarding the Symposium will be posted on the website as it becomes available.

Travel/entry Formalities
Participants are expected to check their visa requirement for Japan. The requirement for visa is based on the nationality of the passport and subject to the national laws of the host country of the Symposium.

The attainment of visa is the sole responsibility of the participant. Toyota City issues the necessary documents for obtaining visas at the request of participants. If you need some help, please contact the officials of Toyota City Mr. Wataru Sawada (wataru-sawada@city.toyota.aichi.jp) and Ms. Hitomi Tanaka (hitomi-tanaka@city.toyota.aichi.jp).

Transportation to/from the Airport
The nearest international airport to Toyota City is the Chubu Centrair International Airport, Nagoya. The most convenient method to access Toyota City from CENTRAIR is the airport bus, which service shuttling between the airport and Toyota City operates every day (Fare: 1,750 JPY Traveling Time: 80 minutes). The airport bus route ends at the Meitetsu Toyota Hotel (the venue of the High-level Symposium). For further information, please visit the website of Chubu Centrair International Airport, Nagoya: http://www.centrair.jp/en.
For other transportation options, please visit the website of TOYOTA Tourism Association: http://www1.citytoyota-kankou-jp.org/en/access/index.html

Participants who are eligible for funding-support from Toyota City are to be given vouchers for airport bus at the airport (CENTRAIR). Please see the notification of funding-support for further information.

**Funding Support**
The City of Toyota is offering to support the travel and per diem to developing country participants, funds permitting. If you wish to request funding support, please include this in the attached registration form. On receiving your request, Toyota City official (Mr. Wataru Sawada wataru-sawada@city.toyota.aichi.jp or Ms. Hitomi Tanaka hitomi-tanaka@city.toyota.aichi.jp), will be contacting you by e-mail concerning the funding support.

**Hotel Accommodation**
Meitetsu Toyota Hotel (the venue of the High-level Symposium)
*Address:* 1-140 Kitamachi Toyota Aichi Japan 471-0027 Phone: +81-565-35-6611
*Rates:* one person (one room for one person): 12,000 ~ 22,300 JPY
  two person (one room for two persons): 10,850 ~ 12,950 JPY/per person

Hotel Toyota Castle (within a two-minute walk from the venue)
*Address:* 2-160 Kitamachi Toyota Aichi Japan 471-0027 Phone: +81-565-31-2211
*Rates:* one person (one room for one person): 13,000 ~ 19,000 JPY
  two person (one room for two persons): 11,000 JPY/per person

The above confirmed hotel preferential rates are only guaranteed until 12 December. Reservations should be made only through the website named “AMARYS” managed by JTB Corporation. Verification ID and password specified below are required in using AMARYS. Please kindly understand that sooner reservation is highly encouraged and that no reservation by direct phone call or e-mail to the hotels will be accepted.

Participants who are eligible for funding-support from Toyota City should reserve hotels by contacting JTB Corporation directly as specified in the notification of funding-support.

**Reservation Website AMARYS:**
https://amarys-jtb.jp/toyotaHSSC/WebRegistry/RegBasicCheck.aspx?kb=A&g=1
Verifier ID: toyota2015
Verifier Password: toyota2015
*Note:* you will be required to set your own Log-in ID and password differently from the ID and the password designated above.

**Pre & Post Symposium Tours (optional)**
On 14th and 17th January, pre & post congress tours will be organized by Toyota City in order to welcome participants and offer insights into the City’s initiatives for sustainable development (some programs are charged). Pre & Post Congress Tours are open to any participants. For further information and reservation, please visit AMARYS.
Press Coverage
Credentialed media will be invited to enter the meeting room and cover the Plenary Session with welcome and keynote statements which will take place during the morning of 15 January 2015 until 12 noon. Participants will be informed in advance should the organizers receive any request for interviews in advance of the Event.

Other Information
*Weather and temperature:* it may snow in Toyota City in January, and temperature sometimes drops under zero degrees Celsius. Average temperature measures 4.3 degrees Celsius (39.7 degrees Fahrenheit) in central Toyota.

*Currency Exchanges and Credit Cards:* currency exchange services are available at the Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ Bank nearby. Exchanging at the airport is advisable however, as some currencies are not exchangeable at the bank. Most hotels, restaurants, and large-scale shopping stores accept major credit cards. Carrying cash is recommended when you shop at a privately-managed store.

*Electricity:* Voltage: 100 volts; Shape of plugs: flat two-pinned plugs

*Mobile Phone use:* the protocols of Japanese mobile phone service providers are different from that of most parts of the world. Please check with your carrier before you depart your country. Mobile phones are available for rent at the airport.

For information contact:
Ms. Birgitte Bryld Alvarez-Rivero, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, DSD/DESA: email: alvarez-riverob@un.org; and,

Ms. Ningning Yang, sustainable development consultant, DSD/DESA: email: yang21@un.org.
WELCOME TO TOYOTA CITY FROM THE MAYOR’S OFFICE

Toyota City is not only a city with a world-renowned monozukuri (manufacturing) industry, but also a city blessed with a variety of attractive regional resources including rich nature, history, culture and agricultural infrastructure. The year 2014 marks the 10th anniversary of the unification of the surrounding towns creating a “New Toyota City”.

Through the slogan “The standards of tomorrow, today”, Toyota City aspires to an urban planning focused on the future with an urban centre supported by an active industry and intermountain areas surrounded by abundant nature coexisting side by side along with our dynamically active population.

Toyota City leads real scale experiments to make effective reducing carbon emissions. Those measures and projects may be seen at Toyota Ecoful Town, opened in May 2012, which has been visited for guests from over 70 countries. Our efforts have received high praises also from abroad.

We are aiming for a society where being friendly to the environment may be a relaxing and enjoyable activity. It also means a rational lifestyle, bringing the technologies not only for increasing industrial production but also for our everyday life, to have a more comfortable one.

Toyota City, supporting and being supported by the power of our proud citizens, communities and enterprises, aims to improve municipal governance focusing on strategies for the future in order to be prepared and respond promptly to any situational changes.

Population: 422,041 (as of November 1, 2014)
City Area: 918.47 square kilometers