



【Panel discussion at the Emerging Women Entrepreneurs Forum 2018】

Reporting Yokohama's Major International Projects

YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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“Yokohama Committee for TICAD7 Promotion” established

The inaugural meeting of the “Yokohama Committee for TICAD7 Promotion,” was convened on Thursday, August 23 at the Yokohama Royal Park Hotel. Committee president Mayor Hayashi shared the city’s full commitment to preparations for the conference with the meeting’s 73 attendees, and called for the cooperation of local organizations.

Guests at the inaugural meeting included Mr. Manabu Horii, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and H.E. Mr. Estifanos Afeworki Haile, Ambassador of Eritrea and Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps. The Vice-Minister praised the success of the two previous Yokohama-hosted TICADs, and conveyed his high expectations for TICAD7. Ambassador Estifanos also expressed his sincere wishes for the event’s success.



Emerging Women Entrepreneurs Forum 2018 discusses social innovation to achieve SDGs

The “Emerging Women Entrepreneurs Forum 2018” was held on August 26, presented by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the

City of Yokohama, who also hosted the event. The thematic focus of the Forum, attended by about 100 people, concerned achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through social innovation, in anticipation of the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD7) to be held in Yokohama next year, and panel discussions were held on the present and future of business from the perspective of gender issues.



Director Kato of JICA and Yokohama Mayor Hayashi took the podium to open the forum. The Mayor recalled her own experiences as a businesswoman as she reaffirmed the city’s commitment to greater efforts in promoting the active participation of women in the workplace to reflect Yokohama’s inclusion in the SDGs FutureCity Initiative.

Female entrepreneurs visiting Japan from Africa through the “Africa-Japan Business Women Exchange” training program, run in collaboration with JICA, took part in the panel discussion. Representatives from Japanese firms that are expanding their business in emerging economies through “e-learning” education technology, software development, and other enterprises also exchanged opinions at the panel.

Afterwards, the Forum’s attendees joined the businesswomen from Africa, officials from related government agencies, and the other representatives to take part in exchange and lively discussions on the covered topics.



TICAD7 website goes online

A website featuring TICAD7 in Yokohama has been established. Visitors will find a portal will learn about events and the city’s projects related to the upcoming conference.

<https://ticad7.city.yokohama.lg.jp/>
 (Japanese; other languages planned)



Mayor Hayashi meets U.S. Ambassador Hagerty for discussions

Mayor Hayashi met with H.E. Mr. William Hagerty, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to Japan at the U.S. Embassy for talks on August 23.



The Mayor exchanged views with Ambassador Hagerty regarding the preparations Yokohama is undertaking to establish a representative office in the U.S. as well as Yokohama’s business environment, attracting U.S. enterprises, and Yokohama firms currently doing business in the U.S.