

Overview of the 10th East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress

2019

● November 6 (Wed) ————— Hotel Nikko Nara

14:00 – 18:00	Bilateral Meetings
18:00 – 21:00	Dinner

2019

● November 7 (Thurs) ————— Hotel Nikko Nara

08:30 – 08:50	Opening Ceremony
08:50 – 09:20	The 10th Anniversary Special Speech
09:30 – 12:10	Discussion (Morning) Main Session (Theme 1 “Promotion of Tourism”) Sub Session (Theme 2 “Enhancement of Welfare and Medical Treatment Supported by the Communities”)
12:10 – 13:10	Lunch ①
13:10 – 13:20	The 10th Anniversary Memorial Movie
13:20 – 16:00	Discussion (Afternoon) Main Session (Theme 2 “Enhancement of Welfare and Medical Treatment Supported by the Communities”) Sub Session (Theme 1 “Promotion of Tourism”)
16:10 – 16:40	The 10th Anniversary Guest Speech
16:40 – 17:10	General Session
17:20 – 17:40	Photo Session
17:50 – 18:20	Representatives' Press Conference
18:30 – 20:30	Governor's Banquet
20:30 – 22:20	Night Excursion (Kasuga Taisha Shrine and Nigatsu-do Hall of Todai-ji Temple Complex)

2019

● November 8 (Fri) ————— Nara City

09:20 – 13:00	Excursion (Lunch ②) (<i>Shika Yose</i> (Deer Gathering) and Shoryaku-ji Temple)
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**ARAI, Shogo**

Governor of Nara Prefecture

I am really pleased to hear that the East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress marks its 10th commemorative congress and would like to express my gratitude to all of you for your continued support and cooperation.

Historically, during the sixth to the eighth centuries when the government of Japan was placed in Nara, Japan adopted and accepted various cultures and civilizations from neighboring countries including Tang of China and countries in the Korean Peninsula, making them the foundation of the country. We have hosted this congress to express our gratitude for the benefits we received in history and contribute to the future of East Asia as much as possible.

This congress is basically for exchanging opinions on selected themes about problems faced by regions. It does not aim at reaching in some kind of conclusions. Instead, it is a congress designed to visualize how East Asia and its regions will be developed in a cooperative way.

We selected two themes, “Promotion of Tourism” and “Enhancement of Welfare and Medical Treatment Supported by the Communities” for this year’s congress, which was attended by not only people from the member governments, but also staff of U.N. World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and other related organizations. In celebration of the 10th anniversary, we have prepared commemorative events such as a special speech, a memorial movie, and a guest speech, as well as a panel exhibition booth introducing the history of this congress. I would like all of you to actively exchange views, leading to the development of each region and improvement of activities in the future, and to further deepen the friendship and interaction with each other.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to participants from local and regional governments in East Asia and related organizations, speakers, and lecturers. I also would like everyone to enjoy the late autumn of Nara through the excursion and other events during your limited free hours in the congress.

Finally, I really hope today’s congress will be productive for all of you and look forward to a continued good relationship among us. Thank you.