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1. PROJECT TO SUPPORT GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT OF COMPANIES IN OSAKA/KANSAI HELD IN COOPERATION WITH THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry held "think GLOBAL, think HONG KONG," an event targeting companies in Osaka/Kansai that explores business opportunities in Hong Kong, on January 28 at the OCCI under joint



sponsorship with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and other entities. A total of 800 people participated in the event.

In the morning symposium, Margaret Fong, Executive Director of the Council; Gregory So Kam-leung, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development of Hong Kong, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China; Shigetaka Sato, Chairman, OCCI; and Osaka Governor Ichiro Matsui appeared on the platform.

Chairman Sato stated in his speech: "After the business tie-up between the OCCI and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in January last year, exchanges between the two organizations have been

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry



further deepened with a low salt recipe developed by the National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center, for which I serve as director, exhibited at Hong Kong Food Expo, and meeting with a favorable reception in the region.”

This event has been held in influential cities around the world. This time, Osaka was selected as the host city as a result of the OCCI’s active cooperation with various projects by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council—based on the memorandum that was concluded in January last year between the OCCI and the Council—such as cosponsoring seminars, receiving the Council’s delegation that visited Osaka, as well as holding business talks between companies from Hong Kong and companies from Osaka.

2. THE 8TH OVERSEAS MARKET EXPANSION EVENT FOR PRODUCTS MADE IN JAPAN, “BUSINESS TALKS WITH BUYERS FROM THAILAND AND MYANMAR” HELD



The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry held business talks on February 17 (Tue) and 18 (Wed) for business-matching between buyer companies invited from Thailand and Myanmar and small and medium-sized enterprises from Osaka/Kansai, in order to support companies in Osaka/Kansai to cultivate overseas markets. The Overseas Market Expansion Event for Products Made in Japan, in which those business talks were held with buyers invited from overseas countries, marked its 8th anniversary with this event.

This time, four buyer companies that are motivated to buy products made in Japan came to Osaka upon invitation from Myanmar, a country that is being rapidly democratized and has attracted interest for future investment and market, in addition to Thailand for the second straight year, a hub for ASEAN countries that has been popular as an investment destination among Japanese companies.

Buyers from Thailand sought to buy Japanese foods, drinks, snacks, seasonings, plastic products for daily use, and those from Myanmar looked for welding-related materials and machines, other mechanical engineering equipment.

The number of Japanese companies, which applied for business talks with buyers, exceeded the initially scheduled quota, and small and medium-size enterprises that are considering entering or developing new markets in ASEAN countries in the future, enthusiastically promoted their products.

Among 43 participating Japanese companies, a total of 75 business talks took place during the two days of the event, of which 44 cases reached an agreement for continuation.

3. “WORLD MEDICAL FORUM IN KANSAI 2015” HELD

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, jointly with the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry; Center for Advanced Medical Engineering and Informatics, Osaka University (MEI Center); and JETRO Osaka exhibited the “World Medical Forum” at “Medical Japan,” Japan’s first “General Exhibition of Medicine” at Intex Osaka from February 4 to 6, which attracted approximately 30,000 visitors. In addition, on February 6, the OCCI held a symposium at the same venue.

At the World Medical Forum booth, as many as 60 individual interviews were held between Japanese companies and overseas supporting organizations/companies, with the prepared seats in the space being continually filled. At the symposium held on the 6th, Director Yoshiyuki Taenaka of the Research and Development Initiative Center, National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center served as moderator, and supporting organizations and companies from Minnesota, U.S.; Manchester, UK; and Singapore held discussions on the best ways to develop international human resources and the establishment of an international and organic company support network, through lectures and panel discussions that attracted many audience members.

4. OCCI INTERNATIONAL DIVISION REPORT ON VIP VISITORS

- 1/28 Mr. Gregory So Kam-Leung, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development,
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
Ms. Margaret Fong, Executive Director, Hong Kong Trade Development Council
- 1/30 Mr. Paban Chowdhury, Executive Chairman, Bangladesh Economic Zone Authority
- 2/10 Mr. Prayuth Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister, Leader of the National Council for
Peace and Order, Kingdom of Thailand
Mr. Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign
Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand
Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Deputy Minister of Transport, Kingdom of
Thailand
Mr. Thanatip UPATISING, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Royal Thai Embassy in Japan
Mr. Vichit CHITVIMARN, Consul General, Royal Thai Consulate-General in
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