Prospectus

-Shino-Japan International Symposium on the East Asian Environmental Problems-

The East Asian countries, especially China, have been achieving rapid economic progress. However, this progress inevitably accompanies serious environmental repercussions. Typical examples being air pollution around the Beijing and Shanghai areas and water pollution in the Chang and Yellow Rivers in China, but this has the possibility of "transboundary pollution" and could lead to environmental changes on the global scale.

Environmental issues have no national boundaries. What is important is not to look on our neighbors' misfortunes with indifference, but to maintain the reciprocal relationship. Japan, the neighboring country of China, has overcome various environmental pollutions during the period of high economic growth, and this has led to the advancement of environmental technologies and scientists to that of the one of the highest international standards. Although China's proactive role is of paramount importance, it is also of urgent matter that the scientists of China, Korea and Japan cooperate and find comprehensive solutions for these environmental issues.

In view of the above, Kyushu University has organized "The East Asian environmental Problems Project team" of researchers of the highest-level, in September 2007, under the direction of the President, Dr. Tisato Kajiyama. The 1st Kick-Off International Symposium was held in November of that year, when the participants from both China and Japan confirmed their intent on solving these issues together.

The main purpose of this "Shino-Japan International Symposium on The East Environmental Problems" is to strengthen the research exchange between the scientists of the three universities of China and Kyushu University. As Kyushu University has concluded international cooperation with Tongji University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University on environment issues, and has a strong collaboration with Tsinghua University, we hope the scientists are able to hold lively discussions. With a sincere wish that this international symposium will be the beginning of comprehensive resolutions to these problems comprehensively, I hope for the participation and support from all those involved, for the friendly exchanges and cooperation between China and Japan.

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