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 INNOVATION SHOWCASE "EXCROSS"



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1. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCILORS AND SELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMEN OF THE OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

On the 2nd, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry held its first extraordinary general meeting of Councilors for the selection of executives due to the expiration of terms of office.

The President of Osaka Gas, Mr. Hiroshi Ozaki, was selected as the Chairman. Five Vice Chairmen were reappointed: Isao

Teshirogi, President of Shionogi & Co., Ltd.Shingo Torii, Vice

Chairman of the Board of Suntory Holdings Limited Junzo

Tateno, President of Union Corporation Kazuhiro Higashi,

Chairman of the Board of Resona Bank, Limited

Yoshinori Yoshida, adviser to Kintetsu Group Holdings Co., Ltd.

Two new Vice Chairmen were elected: Akihiro Kuroda,

Chairman of Kokuyo Co., Ltd.Kyoko Hirose, President of Hirose

Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

2. REPORT ON THE HOSTING OF GLOBAL INNOVATION FORUM 2020 ONLINE AND ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF BUSINESS NEGOTIATIONS FROM NOW ON

On October 28th, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry started an online business meeting called "Global Innovation Forum in Osaka 2020 (GIF2020)". Last year, we gathered startups from Japan and overseas in Osaka and held an exhibition type business meeting. However, this year we held it online due to the spread of the new coronavirus infection.

The dedicated website https://gif.osaka.cci.or.jp/en/ introduces products and services that incorporate the latest technologies such as productivity improvement, health tech, smart city, robotics, food tech, and mobility, from 23 companies in 11 countries (United States, United Kingdom, Israel, Italy, India, Estonia, Canada, Singapore, China, France and Japan). The site has product demonstration videos from each company and pitch videos introducing the business models of each company, all of which can be viewed with subtitles. On the opening day of the 28th, 107 business negotiations were arranged for 43 Japanese companies. Furthermore, the setting up of new business negotiations through the website will be accepted up until the end of March next year.

3. "SAKUYAHIME" AWARD

On October 8th, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry held the awards ceremony for "The 5th Osaka Sakuyahime Awards". With the participation of around 150 people, one person was awarded the "Osaka Sakuyahime Grand Prize", 10 people were awarded the "Osaka Sakuyahime Prize", and 40 people were awarded Achievement Prizes.

The awards are given to recipients such as women in managerial positions who are expected to become even more successful from now on and serve as role models for younger employees. This time was the 5th and final awards session, but we will continue to promote the active participation of women from now on. At the beginning of the awards ceremony, the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Hiroshi Ozaki

said, "We hope that this award will provide an opportunity for the winners to collaborate with each other and play an active role in society."

In the subsequent panel discussion, the winners of the Grand Prize from the 1st to the 5th awards sessions all appeared on the stage and reported on the active exchange between the award recipients. They also exchanged opinions on what is necessary for the development of female leaders.

4. GUIDE TO THE KICKOFF SYMPOSIUM FOR FOOD CREATION CITY OSAKA

On November 12th, the Food Creation City Osaka Promotion Organization (Secretariat: Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Osaka Convention & Tourism Bureau) held a symposium at the International Conference Hall of the Chamber. The symposium was also distributed online and a total of 175 people participated.

There was an opening address by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Hiroshi Ozaki, who is a joint representative of the Promotion Organization, and then the keynote address was given by Mitsuru Sawada, who is the representative of CHAOS and the Producer of the Promotion Organization. After that, there were appearances on stage by Sawada, Hajime Yoneda of HAJIME (Three Michelin stars), Yusuke Takada of LA CIME (Two Michelin stars and 10th place in "Asia's 50 Best Restaurants"), and Junko Yamaguchi, a gourmet food guide living in San Sebastian, Spain. A panel discussion was then held under the leadership of Office musubi representative Yuko Suzuki, who is the Director of the Promotion Organization. With contributions from the participants, the panel discussed the theme of how Osaka as a city of food will evolve in the time up to the Osaka, Kansai Expo 2025. Chairman Ozaki commented that we should actively utilize the 2025 World Expo to enhance the food appeal of Osaka.

The Promotion Organization will use this symposium as a kick off point and will refer to the opinions of the

participants as it develops the branding project for "Osaka, City of food."

5. ONLINE SEMINAR ON PROMOTING TRADE TO AFRICA, AS SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MARKETS

The International Division held a seminar on "The attraction of African markets and cautions for trade" in order to support entry into African markets, where there are rapidly growing populations and growing private consumption. In Africa, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement has been concluded and there are growing expectations for its early operation. An increasing number of Japanese companies are seeking to expand their exports by taking advantage of the expansion of intra-regional trade opportunities. In this seminar, explanations were given on the latest information on the African economy, on the situation of the advance of Japanese companies into Africa and their new approaches, and on the main topic, which was the attractiveness of African export markets and the cautions for trading business that arise due to the differences in business practices and economic environments. The seminar was viewed by more than 100 people. In addition, an online exchange meeting with lecturers was held after the seminar and was very successful.

As the total amount of Japan's trade has fallen due to COVID-19, entering new markets that have potential and developing new overseas business partners are essential. The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry will continue to hold business meetings and seminars to support companies in their development of new markets.

6. SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THE OVERSEAS RECRUITMENT OF ADVANCED FOREIGN HUMAN RESOURCES - KICKOFF SEMINAR HELD ONLINE!

The International Division will provide an internship acceptance support program for companies in cooperation with support agencies, partners, and educational institutions in Japan and overseas. The aims of this are to expand the recruitment opportunities for foreign workers who have advanced knowledge and skills, and to help those workers become established in the companies. In addition, the plan is to hold kickoff

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry

seminars to introduce examples and provide basic knowledge on the recruitment of foreign human resources residing overseas, including on internal company systems for their training and becoming established, and for this to lead to long-term activity. This seminar mainly focused on the examples of Vietnam and Myanmar and explained matters such as the basic preparation for employment and training and the criteria for enterprises that are selected by the foreign human resources. We plan to hold two more seminars during FY2020.

7. <DEVELOPMENT OF A SHOWCASE WHERE VISITORS CAN EXPERIENCE THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN THE ERA OF LIVING WITH COVID> - FUTURE SOCIETY SPORTS AND WELLNESS INNOVATION SHOWCASE "EX-CROSS"

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry will hold an "Ex-CROSS" event from 10:00 to 17:00 on Wednesday, December 16th, 2020, in the Congr?s Convention Center in the Second Basement of the North Building, Grand Front Osaka. This is a demonstration project where visitors "can experience" the leading-edge efforts to create new value for the sports and wellness industry through the fusion of entertainment and technology.

The hands-on experience type showcases and demonstration events will be held for services and technologies that are required in the era of living "with COVID", which will include increasing the value of sports experiences to encourage the general public to exercise more, and fusion with virtual technologies to create new experiences in watching sporting events. The aim will be to propose the possibilities of collaboration in business related to the application of those technologies and services.

At the business conference that will be held at the same time, there will be speakers from the Sports Agency and from the Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition. These will give lectures on the possibilities for business creation through the fusion of entertainment and technology, and on the initiatives expected of Osaka and Kansai for innovation in the sports and wellness industry.

8. REPORT ON VIP VISITORS (2020/10/21-12/10)

 $10/\ 8$ Mr. Shyh-Bing LEE, Director General, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Osaka

10/30 Hon. Enis XHEMAILI, Charg? d'Affaires ad interim, Embassy of the Republic of Kosovo, Tokyo

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Information about scheduled events (in Japanese only):If you wish to receive information about scheduled events, please visit http://www.osaka.cci.or.jp/mailstation/and submit your subscription request to OCCI Email Station. Alternatively, please check out information about scheduled seminars and other events on OCCI's website (in Japanese only).

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