

Opening Remarks by Consul-General Kiya  
**The 4<sup>th</sup> Japan-Australia Infrastructure Networking Meeting**

3 March 2020

於 : PwC

[Acknowledgements redacted.]

**1. Momentum**

(Introduction)

I arrived in Sydney in October last year, and the very first event I attended as the Consul-General was a site visit to Western Sydney organised by DFAT for the consular corps in Sydney. Ever since then, on many occasions when I have met with company and government representatives, the development of Western Sydney always came up in the conversation. I truly feel the growing momentum and high expectations for Japan on the development of Western Sydney.

Especially, the Aerotropolis planning package and WCAA strategy paper released in December successfully provided a more concrete vision and reconfirmed investment opportunities in the project.

(Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mission)

Also, it is worth mentioning that the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry business mission led by Doctor Akio Mimura visited Sydney last month. I believe for most Japanese companies based in Australia, convincing senior executives at headquarters in Japan is crucial in making an investment decision. During their visit to Sydney, the briefing on the development of Western Sydney was given by JCCI Sydney. Also senior members of the NSW Government, including the Premier, gave passionate presentations to the business mission.

## 2. This Year's Gains and Losses

(Collaboration between companies)

For Japanese companies who wish to participate in infrastructure projects in Australia, collaboration with local Australian companies is essential. Australian companies also trust the technology and expertise that Japanese companies offer. I believe collaboration between Japan and Australia is the key to success for building the world's most advanced city in Western Sydney.

(Aerotropolis and Bidding)

Prior to the opening of the Western Sydney Airport in 2026, the Master Plan for the Aerotoropolis is due to be released this year, and a bidding process will start next year. We don't have much time left. Now is the last opportunity for both Japanese and Australian companies to find a trusted partner. I would like to emphasise that 2020 is an important milestone year for us.

(Collaboration between Governments)

In addition to the cooperation in business, cross government collaboration between the Australian Federal Government, the NSW Government and local governments are crucial for the success of this large-scale city development project. I encourage all the participants to take advantage of this networking opportunity to form a partnership.

## 3. Future Plans

During the meeting with the JCCI business mission, Premier Berejiklian showed her intention to visit Japan this year. Also in the Global NSW strategy released in December last year, the NSW Government announced the appointment of a Senior NSW Commissioner in Tokyo. I appreciate the NSW Government's continuous high level commitment to promote to Japan.

At the same time, preparation at the working level is also important. On 26 March, our office and the NSW Government will co-organise a Procurement Seminar. I encourage Japanese companies to take advantage of this opportunity as well.

#### 4. Contribution on a Global Scale

The development of Western Sydney is not merely a solution for population growth. It is a project to build a model city with world advanced technology, which ensures economic development and provides solutions to the issues our society is facing. I believe Japan-Australia collaboration, built on a strong, trusting relationship, will lead to the success of the development.

The Japanese government will do its best to support the development of Western Sydney to showcase its solutions in transport, health, disaster control and energy to the world. I do hope the development of Western Sydney will become a project to accomplish our aim of sustainable development, and become an achievement which makes a contribution to the planet.

<謝辞>

○I would also like to express my gratitude to the AJBCC Vice President Mr Bob Seidler, Mr Jason Hayes of PwC, Mr Geoff Roberts AM and other NSW Government members for their great efforts in organising this event. Thank you very much.

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