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## (4) Consultation on TPO Plan(Draft)

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

This afternoon we heard presentations from Bangkok, Busan, Guangzhou and Kitakyushu and I thank you all again for such wonderful presentations. Also, I would like to thank all those who have made their outstanding remarks. I think this session will be the most important of all in this conference. It will be about the establishment of TPO. We would like to give a brief introduction of TPO and have some time to discuss some issues regarding TPO. First, I would like to ask Mr. Jung Sung-kyu of Busan Metropolitan City to give an explanation of what TPO is.

┃Busan (Jung Sung-kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Good afternoon. My name is Jung Sung-kyu from the tourism promotion division of Busan Metropolitan City.

I would like to truly thank all the representatives of the Asian-Pacific City Summit member cities. I am very honored to be able to introduce TPO, the Asia-Pacific Tourism Organization. I would like to talk in the following order. First, I would like to mention the needs in establishing TPO and our plan to establish TPO. And then, I would like to give you a brief introduction on the timetable of establishing TPO.

First, regarding the need of TPO and regarding our plan for establishing TPO, as you all know, the tourism industry along with information and communication industries, is one of the prominent industries in the 21st century. Therefore, the cities around the world are developing tourism as their strategic industries and I believe that if cities in the Asia-Pacific region cooperate to promote this region's tourism industry, better results are anticipated. So we came to a conclusion that it would be more efficient to work together in developing policies and projects for tourism promotion by creating TPO where private sectors such as hotels, travel agencies and tourism associations participate. As suggested by Mayor Ahn in the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian-Pacific City Summit, I officially suggest the establishment of TPO as an official agenda.

Now I would like to introduce the plan for establishing TPO. Last August, the City of Busan developed a business plan for establishing TPO and also we talked with the City of Fukuoka in five rounds of negotiations to develop the business plan for establishing TPO.

If I briefly introduce this plan, we first decided to name this organization as 1) Tourism Promotion Organizations for Asian-Pacific Cities, the acronym being TPO.

2) The purpose of TPO is to co-promote the tourism industries within the Asian-Pacific region. For this, we will develop a network. 3) Organization will consist of member cities and private members. Member cities will be the members of the Asian-Pacific City Summit and cities that wish to join the organization. The cities should be in the Asian-Pacific region and also receive

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approval from the general assembly. Asian-Pacific tourism association, hotels, cruise companies, airline companies, travel agencies, etc can become private members after receiving approval from the general assembly. 4)The organization will consist of general assembly, steering committee and secretariat. The general assembly consists of all members and is the supreme body of decision-making and the steering committee is where operating issues based on decisions made by the general assembly are being made. Secretariat is to be set up in the city of the Chairperson but for the time being, it will be established here in Busan and the expenses will for the time being, be borne by Busan. 5)With regard to the major functions of TPO, it will promote activities to exchange information. We will develop an internet site in which we will introduce culture, tourism products and other related information of our members. Also, we can co-develop tourism products and undertake promotion events. We can exchange publications and develop statistics to understand actual trends and situation of tourism industry.

For details, please refer to the hand-outs we have given out and we have a correction to make in article 8, clause 4; please change 'However, when the Asian-Pacific City Summit is held in that year, the General Assembly shall be held concurrently', to 'However, when the Asian-Pacific City Summit is held in that year, the General Assembly can be held concurrently'.

Lastly, as for the timetable, after today's deliberation in Asian-Pacific working level meeting, plans to establish TPO will be adopted as an official agenda in the 5th Asian-Pacific City Summit that will take place in Fukuoka next August. I hope that members of the Asian-Pacific City Summit will hold hands to develop the tourism industry. And I truly wish that officials of the member cities would cooperate to discuss the official establishment of TPO. Thank you very much for listening.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

We have heard from Busan Metropolitan City. Now, if you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate. Do you want to make comments? Yes, the City of Saga.

└Saga (Sakai Takero) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, I am from the City of Saga. TPO was proposed by the Mayor of Busan at last year's summit meeting, and the City of Saga does not have any different opinion about this matter but since our city was informed about this issue only about a week ago, there hasn't been any internal discussion about this yet. So I cannot give our official consent of our city at this moment. Another thing I want to ask is how TPO is going to solve the gap between small cities such as Saga and big cities? I also am not clear about the organizational issues once TPO is established. Is TPO going to be a subordinate organization of the Summit or is it going to be an independent organization? I would like to know details about that. If TPO is a subordinate organization of Asian-Pacific Summit, you will be able to get the comments of all the member cities when you present this issue in the next year's 5th Summit, where all the mayors will be present. Thank you.

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┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you. Let's listen to other opinions and then try to conduct a discussion on this issue. From Fukuoka, would you make a comment?

┃Fukuoka (Hatae Taneharu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Regarding TPO, the City of Fukuoka and the City of Busan had five rounds of negotiations to talk about the issue and first thing we decided to do is to give an introduction of draft plan to the working level meeting. And in this regard, I would like to thank the City of Busan for all their efforts and cooperation. Now, I would like to make some additional introduction of our draft plan. If you look at the second page of your handouts, you can see the 'major functions' and it has the introduction of the activities. And if I speak for Fukuoka, there are member cities and cities that wish to become members of TPO as well as private business entities that want to become members. What we wish to do within TPO is to conduct a wide variety of activities that can contribute to the co-development Asian-Pacific cities. So regardless of the size of member cities, their opinions will all be accommodated in activity plans and general assembly. So this is not just for big cities but the common good of cities regardless of size. And with regard to the relationship between TPO and the Summit, TPO will be officially established in next year's Asian-Pacific Summit. And once it is officially launched, it will become a mega-organization which can contribute to the development of tourism in the Asia-Pacific region. Of course, we do not consider TPO as a separate organization from the Asian-Pacific Summit.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

The City of Saga has asked some questions and Mr. Hata has answered them. I wonder if his questions have been answered.

┃Saga (Sakai Takero) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you. Basically, I think there is a difference between all of you and our city. There has been no internal discussion so I hope you understand me for not being able to say 'yes' or 'no' about this issue. I am a member of an organization so I can only make my decision known in confidence only after there's been a decision made at an organizational level.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you very much. Yes, I understand what you are trying to say. Yes, next from Kitakyushu.

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┃ Kitakyushu (Terashi Michito) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, I am from Kitakyushu. As it is being discussed right now, I think whether TPO is a subordinate of the Summit or independent organization is an issue because it will be crucial in the course of the organization's development. So I think it should be specifically mentioned and verified. The City of Fukuoka has said that TPO will be operated under the City Summit. If so, the role of this organization is quite different from what we have envisioned and I think these things have to be discussed with all of you before proceeding to the next step. And as mentioned by the City of Saga, since the organization issue is not clear and our city of Kitakyushu has not made any decisions yet, I cannot say whether we are for or against this plan. That is our position. thank you.

┃ Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I believe that an official from Busan can give the answer to that question.

┃ Busan (Lee, Gyu-ho) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Good afternoon. I am in charge of international affairs in the city government of Busan. International Relations Division of Busan Metropolitan City has been cooperating with Fukuoka City Government International Affairs Office regarding the operation of Asian-Pacific City Summit. Busan City's tourism promotion office, Fukuoka City's tourism office and international affairs office and other city government offices have been coordinating and consulting each other on TPO which has been proposed in the 4th Asian-Pacific City Summit. We have received questions from Kitakyushu and Saga and those questions have to do with characteristics or attributes of the organization. TPO was proposed by the Asian-Pacific City Summit so this organization has to have a relationship with the City Summit. However, whether it is going to be a sub-organization that belongs to Asian-Pacific City Summit or an independent organization, requires further discussion. But basically we all agree that it is going to be an organization that has a close relationship to the Asian-Pacific City Summit and that TPO is an organization that was established by the Summit. Representatives from Saga and Kitakyushu have both mentioned as working level officials that they need to have more time to come to a decision and they agree basically to the contents of the organization but need more time for internal decision making before saying 'yes' or 'no'. We fully understand what you mean. When you participate in an international conference at a working level, we always comprehend and make decisions as a working level official and then go back to our respective cities for internal decision making. For instance, Busan City's plan to set up a secretariat or allocating budget for operating expenses requires internal approval. But right now, we do not have enough time to come to a decision and we understand in principle, what is being discussed and proposed. And I believe that coming to a decision right now is beyond our capacity and that we should only discuss issues that working level officials can agree to. Thank you.

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Chairman

If I try to summarize, he said that TPO and the Asian-Pacific City Summit are not separate organizations. Metaphorically speaking, it would be similar to a mother-son relationship. So you can imagine that the City Summit is the big framework and TPO will be established within the framework. Even though we are submitting a resolution right now, it will become valid only after being approved by Asian-Pacific City Summit next August. So today, we are going to talk about many issues of establishing TPO at a working level but eventually, it will come into effect next year in August. And in terms of expense, we already said that the City of Busan will bear the expense for the time being and I don't think member cities will be burdened with the expense issue. So last year, because the objective of TPO was to seek co-development of tourism between Asian-Pacific cities and was in line with the City Summit, it was passed as a proposal. So if you don't have any different opinions, we hope that you can take this issue back to your respective cities for internal discussion and make the final decisions in the Summit next August. During that time, we will have sufficient time to make revisions and rearrangements but I believe that calling a large meeting such as this will be difficult. If you have any other comments, please present them.

Kitakyushu (Terashi Michito)

Excuse me. As for the direction, I fully understand. And the City of Kitakyushu wants to express agreement but as it has been said before, I want to know whether TPO is going to be a sub-organization or an independent organization. And depending on this, we have to decide whether to convene the assembly simultaneously or separately and if TPO is independent, the Summit will not have control over the organization. So I think it is very important to clarify the structural issue. As we all go back to our respective cities, this will be the issue of hottest attention and we need to clarify the organizational status and relation TPO has with the Summit. Although TPO is a newly launching organization, I think we have to have clear understanding of its status. We at least need this information to be able to present this idea to my colleagues and bosses.

Busan(Jung Sung-kyu)

Yes, I am the Director of Tourism Promotion Division of Busan Metropolitan City. Of course, TPO has relationship with Asian-Pacific City Summit because the TPO consists of members of the Summit and these members play important roles. And we added the article that allows participation of cities that are not members of the Summit for the organization to be more active and enterprising. So TPO has a relationship with the Asian-Pacific City Summit but it will be a separate organization and it will be operated separately.

Chairman

Would you respond, Fukuoka?

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┃Fukuoka(Fukumoto Takayuki) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Many times, we have talked about TPO with the City of Busan and we have also agreed that the organizational status and relationship is critical. So I would like to ask the Chairperson at this point to ask other city representatives to suggest their views. What I wish to know is that TPO is an organization to promote tourism in Asia Pacific region; that is the objective of TPO and I believe that all of you understand this. I think tourism accommodates many elements; not only the administrative but also convention, private businesses in tourism industry and many others. So in this respect, TPO should accommodate many functions and develop as an organization. As the chairman said, since members of the Asian-Pacific City Summit will be the center of TPO, the relationship between the two organizations will be similar to mother and son relationship. And the child would want to develop into an independent individual with diverse thoughts and the mother would want to care for and advise the child. But overall, I think the child should be in a system where he/she can mature into an individual. So I would like to listen to the opinions of other representatives.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I think the member cities now have a better understanding about the issue. Since you have heard presentations and comments, I think members from China and Vietnam can contribute objective points of view to the discussion. Yes, representative from Urumqi.

┃Urumqi (Li Bo Jun) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you for your presentation, explaining about the TPO. As for the framework and basic contents, we agree. I think this is a very good draft. So within that large framework, there are many different contents and we don't have any different ideas. However, I want to propose my own ideas. First, article 5 and 6 of page 6, about registration and resignation. Regarding registration and resignation, it is written in the draft that the secretary general receives them in writing and it is then decided in general assembly for acceptance or rejection. But according to the respective article, it is up to the secretary general to make the decision and I wonder whether it is the right way to go. Secondly, if you look at item 3 of article 8, it says 'the chairmanship of the General Assembly shall be taken by the representative of the host city members'. Could we change it so that any representative of the host member city can assume the position of the chairmanship?

┃Busan (Jung Sung-kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you. You talked about registration and resignation of article 5. The secretary general will accept the application and then submit the received to the general assembly. So it means that applications cannot be refused by the secretary general and as for resignation, it is meaningless for the general assembly to accept or refuse resignation. So the article states that



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┃ Busan(Jung Sung-Kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

According to article 4, there are requirements in becoming a member. To become a member city, the city has to be the member of the Asian-Pacific City Summit or a city in the Asia Pacific region that wants to join TPO and has received approval from the general assembly. The same is applied to private members. The procedure in becoming a member is detailed and long so we found it difficult to include the procedure in the statutes and it will be reviewed by the steering committee. So in article 4, we have just specified the scope and who can become a member.

┃ Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Do you understand, Manila?

┃ Manila □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, thank you.

┃ Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Anyone else? I would like to ask China for a comment. Dalian?

┃ Dalian(Li Bo Jun) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I think it is a good idea that will promote cooperation between member cities in the tourism field. Regarding the status of the organization, I think that TPO should remain under control of the Summit. I think this organization is made to implement tourism related plans and programs proposed by the Asian-Pacific City Summit and the Summit will promote cooperation in the tourism industry and cooperation in other sectors. For instance, I think it will be helpful in trade investment and economic cooperation so I think it should remain as a sub-organization of the Summit. This meeting is a working level meeting and the important thing is to promote cooperation between cities. I think we have to develop a consensus today and for aspects we do not agree, I think we can coordinate via written communication so that we can come to a decision in the next Summit. Thank you very much.

┃ Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you very much. Now, I would like to ask Jakarta to comment.

┃ Jakarta(Indra Sukirno) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, I have been listening so far about what TPO is. And I think it was a major step for the City of Busan to take the initiative in order to put Asia Pacific back in the map of the international tourism market. However, I would just like to know the difference between TPO and PATA, which I know many of us are members and also has the similar common interest



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of promoting tourism within the Asian-Pacific region. Another question I would like to ask is, providing that we are given more information on how to go about submitting our applications to be approved by the general assembly, I would like to know if there are any plans to set up a working committee or a special task force that will outline the business plan as well as the activity plan for TPO to be working effectively and efficiently Thank you.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

We will try to answer that question.

┃Busan (Jung Sung-Kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I will try to answer your questions. There are many organizations that promote tourism in the Asian Pacific region and I believe that the goals of these organizations are almost the same. PATA does not have any limitations on membership and applies to all cities, legal entities and research institutes. On the other hand, TPO is based on a special organization; Asian-Pacific City Summit, which was proposed by Fukuoka and has 25 member cities. TPO is more close-knit and is more of an expansion from the initial members so I don't think joining TPO will be a problem for PATA members since there isn't any duplication. And in order to form TPO, there must be of course, detailed operational rules and we must be able to reflect the positions of the member cities and have the detailed procedures. There will be a task force at the City of Busan and through communication and if necessary even by visiting member cities, we will collect the required information and comments and we have already set up the budget for this activity.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I wonder if this answers your questions.

┃Jakarta (Indra Sukirno) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, thank you.

┃Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Next, I would like to ask Bangkok to make a comment.

┃Bangkok(Chanchai Rohitasiri) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you very much. Now, I would like to speak on behalf of Bangkok Tourism Bureau. First of all, I would like to say that I agree with the TPO at this time but in some details, we have to find out what we are going to do. In article 4, which was talked by members from China and Manila, you said that when we attempt to become a member, we have to be

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approved by general assembly but when we sign the resignation, I think that should be also approved by the general assembly because then you will have a chance to know officially. And in the Asian-Pacific City Summit, you can know what has been going on at TPO.

The second thing is number two; private members. I think this is concerning business, maybe we have been talking about exchanging staffs and colleagues and I suggest that universities and students related to tourism join this organization. Because tourism does not concern only business it should draw attention from cities. I would like to add more, because PATA deals only with business and Asian-Pacific City Summit has to look with a global idea, not only the business side. And not only money, but we can also have relationship between nations and cities. This is one thing we would like to commend in TPO. Thank you.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Thank you for your opinion. I don't think we need to specifically respond to this comment. Would you like to listen to your answer to your comment?

└Jakarta (Indra Sukirno) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, please.

└Busan (Jung Sung-Kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, as a representative of Busan, I would like to respond to your comment. I can say one thing. Regarding getting approval from the general assembly for the resignation of membership, I think this issue has already been mentioned. We can revise it so that resignation should be also approved by the general assembly.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Regarding the private membership, yes, we totally agree that many members and entities should take part. Yes, from Manila, would you like to make a comment?

└Manila □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to make another observation with respect to the draft statutes of the TPO. We have overlooked at one item, the rights, privileges and responsibilities of the members. I suggest that we should also take that into consideration. That's all, Mr. Chairman.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Busan City, please answer.

└Busan (Jung Sung-Kyu) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I will answer the question. If you look at the purpose of the organization, it says 'the organization aims at jointly promoting tourism and establishing inter-city network for tourism



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for the modification of this draft and submit it to the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian-Pacific City Summit. We have heard comments from Kitakyushu, Fukuoka, Saga, Manila and other cities, and based on that we are going to come up with another draft that we are going to submit to the Summit. Do you agree or does anybody want to comment?

└Saga (Sakai Takero) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, I would like to thank the members from Busan and Fukuoka for their efforts in establishing the TPO and as I've said before, we cannot say that we agree with your suggestion at this moment and I would like to ask for your understanding.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, we understand. Any comments from Kitakyushu?

└Kitakyushu (Terashi Michito) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Yes, you have made many suggestions and as the City of Dalian said, we can communicate in a written form and each city can talk with one another and we can proceed with this issue on a step-by-step basis. I understand that revisions can be made and we have talked about this in depth today. I think we still have time and from now on, we should make the revisions and talk with cities in more specifics and exchange views. Fukuoka can become the focal point in accommodating ideas from cities of Japan and the City of Fukuoka can communicate with Busan regarding the revision of clauses and rules of TPO.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I would like to ask the representative from Fukuoka to comment.

└Fukuoka (Fukumoto Takayui) □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

I agree with what the representative from Kitakyushu has said. Many opinions have been put forward and according to those opinions, we will have to make modifications and submit the modified draft to the 5<sup>th</sup> Asian-Pacific City Summit. However, I am afraid that we won't be able to come to any conclusion for us to submit the draft to the Summit and there should be pre-arrangements or pre-discussions. So I would like to ask the City of Busan for that discussion. And the City of Fukuoka can act as a window for other cities in Japan for the coordination of opinions.

└Chairman □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□

Many different opinions have been presented on the establishment of TPO and especially the draft plan. So with all these opinions, the Busan City will make the necessary revisions and

