#### **Preface**



The Asian-Pacific City Summit has been held every two years since 1994, with mayors of the Asian-Pacific region gathering together. It aims for the development of a mutual cooperation network in order to solve diverse urban issues. As a supplement to the City Summit, a Working Level Conference has been held each year following the Summit for working level officials to stimulate knowledge and learn from one another.

On November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Kumamoto City hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Level Conference with 39 working level officials from 18 cities in 9 countries assembling to focus on the theme, "City Planning with Citizen Involvement." Through case study presentations, opinion exchange and a study tour, opportunities for the development of new networks and mutual understanding among participants were created.

We received high commendation for our hospitality from participants of this conference. I am very much pleased, and firmly believe that the success of this conference is the result of good conference management and cooperation of devoted volunteers, personnel from related groups and students, throughout the entire conference, including the tea ceremony and traditional Japanese taiko drum performance. Furthermore, I also strongly believe that the success of this conference was because it was, for the first time, open to the public and this enhanced the spirit of collaboration with citizens.

The purpose of this report is to enable both citizens and municipal administrators to better understand this Working Level Conference. I hope those who read this report will gain a better understanding of town planning with collaboration between officials and citizens, and be encouraged to promote efforts related to the development of Asian-Pacific region.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely express my gratitude toward Professor Shojiro Araki of the Faculty of Administration at the Prefectural University of Kumamoto who has supported us greatly; Dr. Takashi Miyakita, the Director of Civic Meetings for Kumamoto Environmental Partnership, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Kagoshima City, Singapore, and the City of Oita who shared case study presentations; Mr. Yuji Oka and Mr. Yukiya Okubo who helped us with the study tour; and all working level officials and Kumamoto City citizens whose participation contributed to the success of this conference.

March 2004

Seishi Kohyama

Mayor of Kumamoto City, Japan



### Meeting with Mayor of Kumamoto City





Representatives of participating cities and the Mayor of Kumamoto City (Mrs. Wang Jian Ling, Vice Mayor of Urumqi)

## **Opening Remarks and Keynote Address**



Welcome Address by Mr. Seishi Kohyama, Mayor of Kumamoto City



Keynote Address by Prof. Shojiro Araki from the Prefectural University of Kumamoto







Citizen participants and student volunteers

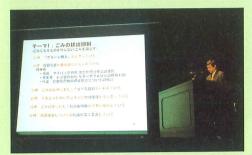
## Japanese Cultural Experience



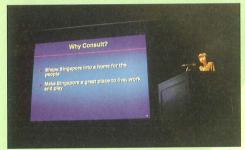
Participants experiencing Japanese tea ceremony and citizen volunteers serving tea



# Case Study Presentations and Opinion Exchange



Presentation by citizen: Dr. Takashi Miyakita, Director of Civic Meetings for Kumamoto Environmental Partnership



Presentation by Administrator: Ms. Caroline Seah, Senior Planner, Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore



Opinion Exchange



Q&A session with citizen participants and those from participating cities





Mr. Yasumasa Fukushima Greetings by the Deputy Mayor of Kumamoto City



Mr. Yusuke Nakamura Toast by the Director of Planning & Coordination Department, Fukuoka City



Mrs. Wang Jian Ling Greetings by Vice Mayor of Urumqi Municipal Government



Mr. Khunpol Prompaet Director of the Survey & Mapping Division, Bangkok Greetings on behalf of all participating cities



Traditional Japanese taiko drum performance by children from Matsuo Preschool





# **Study Tour**



Presenter: Mr. Yuji Oka, President of Moyai Works, Inc.



Mr. Yukiya Okubo, Vice Chairperson of the Administrative Committee



Kumamoto City Onoue Community Center



Kumamoto Castle





Suizenji Jojuen Park



