PRESS RELEASE  January 19, 2012

The Japan Foundation and the Council of Europe are pleased to announce that:

The TOKYO DECLARATION
on a Partnership between Intercultural Cities
has been adopted!!

On January 18 at the International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe: ‘Communicate, Collaborate and Create: Our Communities for Tomorrow’ (http://www.jpf.go.jp/e/intel/new/1201/incul.html), mayors of cities gathered to exchange ideas about the potential of cities for the future, and at the end of this public symposium, Tokyo Declaration (see next page) was successfully adopted.

Cities are committed to continue their journey as intercultural cities, through partnering both domestically and internationally.

How do cities keep up with the changes of this globalized world? We are looking forward to seeing outcomes in coming years!

◆ SPEAKERS

[Mayors]
●Yasutomo SUZUKI, Mayor of Hamamatsu City, Japan  ●Hiroko NAKAYAMA, Mayor of Shinjuku City, Japan  ●Tadayoshi MATSUBARA, Mayor of Ota City, Japan  ●MOON Seok-Jin, Mayor of Seodaemun City in Seoul, Korea  ●YEOM, Tae Young, Mayor of Suwon City, Korea  ●JUNG, Seung-Bong, Deputy Mayor of Ansan City, Korea  ●António COSTA, Mayor of Lisbon City, Portugal  ●Franco CORRADINI, Deputy Mayor of Reggio Emilia, Italy  ●Katarina BERGGREN, Mayor of Botkyrka, Sweden

[Moderators & Commentators]
●YAMAWAKI Keizo, Professor of the School of Global Japanese Studies, Meiji University  ●YANG Kee-Ho, Professor of Sungkonghoe University, former president of the Korean Association for Multicultural Studies.  ●Robert PALMER, Director of Culture and Cultural and Natural Heritage of the Council of Europe  ●Phil WOOD, Philip Wood Associates Ltd, United Kingdom  ●Taro TAMURA, Representative Director, Institute for Human Diversity Japan  ●Toshihiro MENJU, Chief Program Officer, Japan Center for International Exchange

Inquiries:
Ms. Yukiko Ono & Ms. Ai Goto at Europe, Middle East and Africa Section
Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange Department
The Japan Foundation
Email to incul@jpf.go.jp / Telephone 03-5369-6071
Tokyo Declaration on a Partnership between Intercultural Cities

18 January 2012

We gathered here today at the International Symposium on Intercultural Cities in Asia and Europe to share our knowledge and experience, to discuss the issues of the present, and to imagine and prepare for major challenges of managing cities of the future. We have reviewed the strategies of European city members of the Council of Europe/European Commission Intercultural Cities Programme as well as the achievements and challenges of intercultural cities in Japan and Korea.

Having acknowledged that in an age of globalization, which has been changing our economies and our societies, the understanding of the concept and practices of interculturalism can only grow in importance, for cities in Asia, Europe, and the wider world, we declare:

That we regard the cultural diversity of our cities as an asset, and that we will explore a new urban vision which can build upon diversity to foster dynamism, innovation, creativity and growth. To that end, we will seek to establish a partnership between intercultural cities to learn from each other’s achievements and seek answers to our common challenges.

And that the ultimate goal of intercultural cities should be to bring individuals of different cultural backgrounds together for the purpose of building prosperous and harmonious cities of the future.