

Welcome Speech by Mr. Toshihiro Morita,  
Director General, Department of the Environment, Aichi Prefecture

Good morning everyone.

I am Toshihiro Morita, the Director General of the Department of the Environment of Aichi Prefecture.

Sincerely welcome to Aichi Prefecture.

This Nagoya Congress Center is a “historical” place which was the venue of COP 10, which adopted the "Aichi Biodiversity Targets.”

Did you notice there was a “mallet” hanging on the right wall in the main entrance of this hall? The mallet was use at COP10 and struck each time an important issue was decided. It was donated later from the Secretariat of the CBD.

Since COP 10, Aichi prefecture has been working on the conservation and revitalization of biodiversity by collaborating with diverse entities within the prefecture to achieve the "Aichi Biodiversity Targets".

In addition, together with some subnational governments that are making advanced efforts, we have launched the "Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets" and have been showcasing the importance of the roles and contributions of the subnational governments to the Parties and other subnational

governments, in order to promote conservation of biodiversity across the world.

With such our experience, we are very proud that the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop will be held in Aichi, as the start of the global discussion on post 2020 framework.

As a host region, we'd like to support this workshop as far as possible, so that your discussions could proceed smoothly.

I sincerely hope this workshop will be a fruitful conference toward realizing "Living in harmony with nature."

Thank you very much.