

7 March 2017

Dear Friend,

I hope this e-mail finds you well.

The Embassy of Japan in Australia on 23 February 2017 held the Second Japan-Australia Infrastructure Networking Meeting in Canberra. This meeting was well attended by 103 influential representatives of the public and private sectors of Japan and Australia, with many traveling from either interstate or abroad to participate.



(Ambassador Kusaka delivering opening remarks. Click [HERE](#) for the full text.)

The Embassy last July held the first Japan-Australia Infrastructure Networking Meeting to support Japanese firms in their efforts to deepen their linkages with Australian infrastructure-related businesses. Based on feedback received following the first event, the second meeting focused on the themes of “transport” and “renewable energy”. The Embassy also received feedback indicating that Japanese businesses attending the first event had formed consortia with Australian firms and were in the process of bidding for projects. Based on this very positive feedback, it was decided that the second meeting would also provide a platform for one-on-one meetings to be held.

The main meeting was addressed by prominent decision-makers in the area of

Australian infrastructure, including: Mr Mike Mrdak, Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development; Mr Brad Archer, First Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Environment and Energy; and Mr Tim Reardon, Secretary of Transport for NSW. Attendees also heard presentations from senior representatives of the governments of VIC, QLD, SA and the ACT. Other key features of the meeting included a speech made by an infrastructure expert from the University of Sydney and panel discussions held on the topics of transport infrastructure and renewable energy.



(Speeches by Mr Mrdak, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development on the left and Mr Reardon, transport for NSW on the right.)

After the main meeting, Japanese and Australia businesses and government representatives engaged in one-on-one meetings arranged in advance by the Embassy based on requests received from the attendees. In total, 55 one-on-one meetings were held, with over 90 percent of the Japanese firms attending the event participating in one or more of these meetings.

The Second Japan-Australia Infrastructure Networking Meeting was a great success and the Embassy wishes to thank all those who participated for their support and involvement.

Yours Sincerely,

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Sumio Kusaka

Ambassador of Japan to Australia