

Odawara City

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Dr. John Beard
Director of the department of Ageing and Life Course
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Dear Dr. Beard,

It is great pleasure for us to write this letter that supports the process required for Odawara City to join the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Here we send the mayor's letter which assures Odawara City's commitment to the process.

We look forward to Odawara City joining the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities and working together with WHO.

Sincerely,

Fumiyuki Yoshida

Director,

Welfare & Public Health Department

Fumiyuki Yoshida

Senior Citizens' Care Section

Odawara City

Dr. John Beard Director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course World Health Organization

Dear Dr. Beard,

Japan is the most ageing country in the world and Odawara City's population ratio of people aged 65 and over is estimated to be 30% in 2025.

Odawara City has implemented various projects collaborating with local communities so that older people can live a long and healthy life in the city.

In addition, we also have built a community-based integrated care system that can provide medical and nursing care, prevention, housing and living support in an integrated manner when they become in need of support.

In order to accelerate our efforts and raise international awareness of Odawara City's advanced programs, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities and communities, and also I assure that Odawara City, which has sectors implementing welfare programs and services for the elderly, will commit to an approach consistent with the WHO four steps to create age-friendly environments and to participating in the global network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

I also commit myself to making Odawara City more age-friendly, based on "Toward a vital, longevity and welfare society where people can live together (Care Town Odawara)" as a basic idea.

Sincerely,

August 25, 2017

Kenichi Kato, M

Odawara City