



**Yamakita Town**

1301-4, Yamakita, Yamakita Town

Ashigarakami County

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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 Yamakita Town to join the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Here we send the mayor's letter which assures Yamakita Town's commitment to the process.

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

Sincerely,

山崎隆子

Takako Yamazaki

Director, Welfare Division

Yamakita Town

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

Dear Dr. Beard,

Japan is the most advanced ageing country in the world, and the proportion of people aged 65 and over in Yamakita Town is estimated to exceed 40% in 2025. Yamakita Town is implementing various measures to enable people in the town to live a healthy life for a long time as they get older, collaborating with local communities.

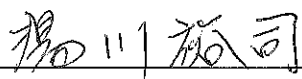
Also, the town is promoting to establish a community-based integrated care system that provides the elderly in need of support with medical, nursing care, prevention, housing and life support in a comprehensive manner.

In order to accelerate our efforts and raise international awareness of Yamakita Town's advanced programs, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities and communities, and also I assure that Yamakita Town, 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 Yamakita Town more age-friendly, based on a basic philosophy "Living safely and comfortably to age in place."

Sincerely,

August 22, 2017

 , Mayor  
Yamakita Town