

August 30, 2018

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

Mayor's Commitment
Hadano City

Japan is the most ageing country in the world and Hadano City's population of people aged 65 and over is already more than 28% of the total population. It is projected that the 75-and-over population will increase rapidly from now.

In order to ensure residents to live a long and healthy life in their familiar environment, Hadano City is implementing various projects collaborating with local communities, volunteer organizations and others.

The City is also building a community-based integrated care system that can provide medical and nursing care, care dependency prevention, and housing and living support in an integrated manner to older residents in need of support.

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

I also commit myself to making Hadano City more age-friendly, based on the idea of building a "mutually supportive society where people can live safely and comfortably for as long as possible".

Sincerely,

Masakazu Takahashi

Mayor

Hadano City