

## Mayor's Commitment

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 Ninomiya Town's population ratio of people aged 65 and over is estimated to be 36.7% or over in 2025.

Ninomiya Town has implemented various projects collaborating with local communities so that older people can live a healthy and independent life in their familiar places in community as long as possible.

For the elderly who become in need of care and support, we have built community-based integrated care systems that can provide medical and nursing care, prevention, housing and living support in an integrated manner.

In order to accelerate our efforts and raise international awareness of Ninomiya Town's community-based programs, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities and communities, and assure that Ninomiya 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 that Ninomiya Town will commit to participate in the global network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

I also commit myself to making Ninomiya Town become more age-friendly, based on the idea of "Building a town where people can age independently, safely and enjoyably in community."

Sincerely,

December 18, 2018

*Kuniko Murata*, Mayor  
Ninomiya Town