

Report on the 19th Osaka Business Networking Club

The Lecture by Mr. Marco Lombardi, the Consul General of Italy in Osaka

“The Benefits of World Expositions: Lessons from the Milano 2015”

The Osaka Business and Investment Center (O-BIC) held a meeting of the 19th Osaka Business Networking Club on September 22, at which Mr. Marco Lombardi, the Consul General of Italy in Osaka was invited to speak. About 50 representatives from businesses in Osaka, including those moving into the market in Osaka, foreign diplomatic missions and economic organizations joined the meeting in order to deepen exchange.



Mr. Lombardi spoke about how Milan, which had been facing an economic crisis, used the World Expo to restore its vitality, and how the entire city rose to the occasion, involving the neighboring municipalities as well, to increase the Expo's momentum. Drawing on his experiences as Consul General in Osaka for four and a half years, he pointed out that, although Osaka was well known around the world, many people did not know what it actually had to offer. He noted the importance of using the World Expo to expand awareness of Osaka, and his praise for Osaka's food as being some of the best in the world was well received by the audience. Following Mr. Lombardi's remarks, Ms. Eiko Mori, Director of the World Expo Bid Promotion Office at the Department of Policy and Planning of the Osaka Prefectural Government gave a presentation titled “Aims and Developments in Osaka's World Expo Bid.” She described the kind of World Expo the Osaka Prefectural Government hoped to achieve and the approaches it was taking toward the bid. At the networking meeting after the presentations, the participants from different companies engaged in lively exchanges as they looked out on Yumeshima, the proposed site of the World Expo.

< Event Outline >

- DATE & TIME : 14:00-17:00, Friday, 22nd September, 2017
(Registration begins 13:30)
- V E N U E : Osaka prefectural Government Sakishima Building
(Sakishima Cosmo Tower)
44th Floor Main Conference Room,
49th Floor “Montjuic” Banquet Hall
- ORGANIZED by : Osaka Prefecture, the City of Osaka,
and the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- SUPPORTED by : JETRO Osaka



- ◆ Opening Remarks : Ms. Aya Wada, Director for International Affairs, Economic Strategy Bureau ,
Osaka City Government
- ◆ Lecture 1 : “The Benefits of World Expositions: Lessons from the Milano 2015”
Mr. Marco Lombardi, the Consul General of Italy in Osaka
- ◆ Lecture 2 : “Aims and Developments in Osaka's World Expo Bid”
Ms. Eiko Mori, The Director of World Expo Bid promotion Office,
Department of policy and Planning, Osaka Prefectural Government
[*Click here to download the lecture resume.](#)
- ◆ Networking meeting

