

Reporting Yokohama's Major
International Projects

YOKOHAMA INTERNATIONAL DIGEST

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[Friendly soccer match at Nissan Stadium as part of Friendship Event]

TICAD7 Yokohama Friendship Event held with ambassadors of African countries

In anticipation of the 7th Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD7) to be held in Yokohama in 2019, members of the African Diplomatic Corps (ADC) ※ along with members of the National Diet and Yokohama City Council took part in a “Friendship Event,” consisting of a friendly football (soccer) match and reception, held at Nissan Stadium on May 13.



Despite the rain, over 200 spectators showed up to cheer on the teams, totaling roughly 80 athletes rotating in to play. While the ADC team picked up two points during the first half and scored another in the second half to close out the match 3-0, what unfolded was an intense game that enabled both sides to strengthen their camaraderie and friendly relations.



At the reception following the game, ambassadors and stakeholders took part in lively networking, and organizations including local firms from

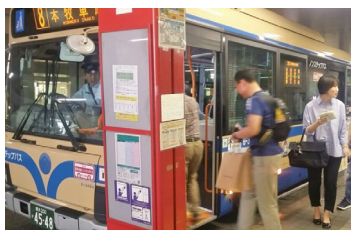
Yokohama participated to take the opportunity to discuss development and expansion of African businesses.

※Organization of ambassadors to Japan from 38 nations in Africa.



Incheon, South Korea officials visit the Yokohama Transportation Bureau

Incheon Metropolitan City, a partner city of Yokohama, sent a delegation of officials from various departments including international relations, waterworks, and transportation to visit the Yokohama Transportation Bureau on May 15.



Transportation Bureau representatives presented a conference in Korean, where they explained Yokohama's history of transportation initiatives, the background behind their public relations magazine, and the impact of its publication. Also, they discussed the numbers for customers using the sightseeing lines, the basis for selecting routes, and which lines tend to be popular.

Being a commercial bureau, questions directed at the Transportation Bureau during the Q&A session focused on issues of a financial nature, such as

budgeting, balance of payments, and priority passes for elderly and disabled passengers.

The visit afforded the chance for a practical experience as well: Incheon officials rode the Blue Line of the Yokohama Municipal Subway with using the “Minato Burari Ticket (One-day Ticket)” they had just received an explanation about, and appeared to enjoy presenting their ticket to the driver when boarding.



“Rose Queen” of Bulgaria visits Yokohama

Ms. Cvetelina Ilieva, the 2017 “Rose Queen” of Bulgaria, visited Yokohama and met with Deputy Mayor Kobayashi on May 23. Ms. Ilieva's visit came via the invitation of the Bulgarian Rose Cultural Association and allowed her to tour the sites of rose gardens on display throughout the city as part of the Garden Necklace YOKOHAMA exhibition, as well as participate in exchanges with elementary schools.



Ms. Ilieva, who studied design in Bulgaria and has a talent for art, remarked that she was touched by the many lovely blossoms and that, “Yokohama is very beautiful.”