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## **FOR**

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## **Press Release**

## The Second East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress in session ~Joint Statement Adopted at Plenary Session~

Oct 25, 2011, Nara - The international congress, "The Second East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress," planned and organized by Nara Prefecture, is being held again this year over the nine (9) days from October 18th (Tue) through to the 26th (Wed).

Forty-Five (45) local governments from over six (6) countries (including 2 invited local government guests) attended the Program for Working-level Officials and the Program for Heads of Local Governments.

The working level officials and heads of local governments deliberated seriously on "Future Governmental Institution and Role of Local Government" based on the results and reports and the framework of this Conference, focusing on support among nations and the expansion of cooperation.

At the plenary meeting, newly joining local governments were approved as members, and the membership increased to a total of fifty-two (52) local governments.

In addition, "The Second East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress Joint Statement" was adopted and a decision was made for the "Third East Asia Local and Regional Government Congress" to be held in 2012.