

Hirofumi Sato, Chairperson of Yokohama City Council, and Makoto Kashiwazaki, Deputy Mayor of Yokohama, visited the French city of Lyon between November 18 and 22 to mark the 55th anniversary of the sister-city relationship. The following are reports on their trip.



1. Meeting with Lyon Mayor

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014, 13:00-13:20

Venue: Lyon City Hall

Outline: Chairperson of City Council Sato and Deputy Mayor Kashiwazaki met with Mayor Gérard Collomb. While looking back on the 55 years of the two cities' cooperative relations, they agreed to further strengthen their close ties and make this year a new start of their even closer partnership for the two cities to keep growing together.



2. Ceremony commemorating 55th anniversary of sister-city relations

Date: Thursday, November 20, 2014, 13:20-15:00

Venue: Lyon City Hall

Outline: The ceremony was hosted by the City of Lyon and the Greater Lyon to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the two cities' sister-city relationship. Present at the ceremony were representatives from the City of Lyon, Greater Lyon, and L'Association Lyon-Japon Nihonjinkai (Association of Japanese residents in Lyon), and the delegation from Yokohama, including Chairperson of City Council Sato, Deputy Mayor Kashiwazaki, members of the Yokohama-Lyon Friendship Committee, the Kishine-Hayashi Troupe,* Yokohama-based companies' officers, and representatives from special technical schools and Yokohama City University.

Following addresses by Lyon Mayor Collomb, Chairperson Sato and Deputy Mayor Kashiwazaki, performances were staged by the Kishine-Hayashi Troupe and hairdo and kimono dressing demonstrations by Iwasaki Gakuen Yokohama College teacher, Hiromi Kakudate, and Akemi Wagatsuma, Iwakiya executive managing director, to introduce Yokohama's traditional performing arts and contemporary culture.



*Kishine-Hayashi Troupe, led by Doshun Watanabe, has been preserving Kishine-Hayashi, a type of traditional local festival music handed down in the Kishine-cho area in Yokohama's Kohoku-ku over a century, and appears on stage in many local events.

3. Kishine-Hayashi Troupe's performance

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014, 11:45-12:30

Venue: Lyon Museum Courtyard

Outline: Members of the Kishine-Hayashi Troupe staged performance of traditional festival music handed down over a century in Yokohama's Kishine-cho community. The troupe, which staged its performance in Lyon back in 2004 to mark the 45th anniversary of the sister-city ties, appeared on stage again before Lyon citizens. Thanks to cooperation by the Lyon Nihonjinkai, some 150 citizens showed up to watch the performance.

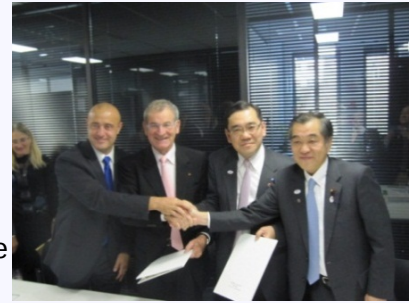


4. Conclusion of “Economic Partnership Agreement” with ERAI

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014, 10:00-11:00

Venue: ERAI Headquarters

Outline: The City of Yokohama concluded an “Economic Partnership Agreement” with ERAI (Enterprise Rhone-Alpes International). The signing was attended by ERAI Chairman Daniel Gouffé and Deputy CEO Pierre-Jean Baillot, representing the ERAI side, and Chairperson of City Council Sato and Deputy Mayor Kashiwazaki, representing the City of Yokohama. Yokohama and ERAI will promote their partnership in attracting companies’ investment and business exchanges to contribute to the two regions’ economic growth.



5. Yokohama business seminar

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014, 14:00-17:00

Venue: Lyon City Hall

Outline: The City of Yokohama held a business seminar in cooperation with the City of Lyon, the Greater Lyon, the Lyon Chamber of Commerce and Industry, ERAI, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Aderly (Lyon Economic Development Agency). City Council Chairperson Sato and Deputy Mayor Kashiwazaki talked about the attractive business environment that Yokohama offer's to foreign businesses before an audience of some 70 people from French companies and economic organizations.



6. Exchanges of views between Yokohama City University and University of Jean Moulin-Lyon 3

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2014, 15:00-16:30

Venue: University of Jean Moulin-Lyon 3

Outline: Representatives from Yokohama City University visited the University of Jean Moulin-Lyon 3 and exchanged views with the Lyon 3 officials. Their discussion produced major progress in promoting exchanges and mutual dispatches of their students.



7. Exchanges of views between Kanagawa Prefectural Association of Special Institutes and Lycee La Martiniere Duchere

Date: Friday, November 21, 2014, 9:00-11:45

Venue: Lycee La Martiniere Duchere

Outline: Three representatives of the Kanagawa Prefectural Association of Special Institutes – Mamoru Tamura, Vice Chairperson and Yokohama branch chief, Hiroaki Kimishima, Managing Director and Yokohama branch deputy chief, and Hiromi Kakudate of Iwasaki Gakuen school – visited Lycee La Martiniere Duchere and were welcomed by the principal of the high school, Yves Boissel, and students. They received a briefing on the school's education policy and visited classes, later exchanging views about their cooperation in future exchanges of young students between them.



[For Inquiries]

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