

Statement from a Meeting held by Regional Leaders on Sustainable Development

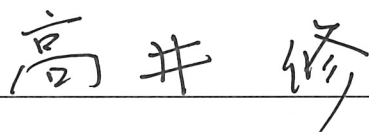
SAPPORO, Hokkaido, Japan, November 11, 2010 -- Today, leaders from Alberta (Canada), Heilongjiang (China), Sakhalin (Russia), Gyeongsangnam-do (South Korea)– all of which share a special sister affiliation with Hokkaido prefecture – concluded a meeting, hosted by the Hokkaido government (Japan). It focused on the common challenges of regional governments to promote sustainable development in their respective jurisdictions.

The leaders from five jurisdictions around the world discussed how their jurisdictions are taking action on environmental protection while allowing for continued growth.

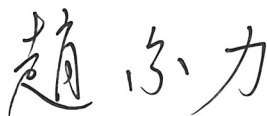
The leaders recognized that climate change is one of the biggest public policy challenges of our time and a responsibility that must be considered in a global context. The session provided an opportunity for each jurisdiction to learn more about best practices and successful programs within their regions. Recognizing that all global citizens have an important role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting the environment and adapting to the effects of climate change, the leaders reviewed recent international discussions on sustainable development. They also agreed to continue to closely monitor developments and to work in their own jurisdictions to advance climate change initiatives.

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