

Opening Remarks for JICA Chief Representative SAKAMOTO Takema

Study on Strategic Multi-stakeholder Process to Demonstrate Business Feasibility

with RECENT Pilot Model in the Philippines, TSURUOKA (Ibaraki Pref.)

September 30, 2024 | 13:00 pm | @EN Tsumugi ELV Dismantling Facility, Pampanga

My Dear Colleagues and Friends, Kasama and Kaibigan.

Naimbag nga Malem Kadakayo Amin!

Magandan hapon po sa inyong lahat !

こんにちは！

It is my honor and privilege to join the opening of the first-ever Japan-standard “End-of-Life-Vehicle (ELV) Dismantling Facility” by EN-Tsumugi company corroborated with TSURUOKA company from Japan, which has very unique and advanced technology and business know-how.

Let me congratulate, EN-Tsumugi company and TSURUOKA company, on today’s successful and august Facility opening.

Why am I here representing JICA? Because JICA has been backing TSURUOKA company. An outstanding Japanese company in the field of circular economy business, TSURUOKA earlier applied for, was qualified, and has been conducting JICA’s Public-Private-Partnership Promotion Program, that is SDGs Business Validation Survey, for “Strategic Multi-Stakeholder Process using the RECYINT Pilot Model” here in Pampanga.

RECYINT Pilot Model is TSURUOKA’s unique and prominent integrated recycling system toward sustainable circular economy and more livable society. It will be able to reduce negative environmental impacts as well as boost economy and improve the quality of life.

Today, we mark an important milestone for the sustainable ELV recycling industry. TSURUOKA’s special facility from Japan can introduce the epoch-making

integrated process of collection and dismantlement of ELVs. Thanks to the exceptional technology, ELVs' parts can be reused and recycled to manufacture other products.

For example, you can now recycle scrap metal and manufacture counterweights for construction machinery. In this context, I would like to reiterate that the need for advanced sorting and recycling of metal resources, plastics, glass, and many other critical materials such as batteries, will be increasing at a fast pace, especially in automobile industry.

Actually, the number of ELVs has been increasing steadily and rapidly. And it is so easy to imagine that ELV will eventually cause more environmental problems if we do not take action now. Moreover, while there are many ways to dismantle ELVs, it is important to establish a standard, which leads to sustainable and economically viable industries.

In this regard, now we are witnessing the contribution to the establishment of proper and productive management model of ELVs¹. However, I think still we have to stress the importance of more solid legal systems to sustain stable collection of ELVs in a legitimate manner. This would include ELV-related policies and regulatory frameworks for proper implementation and monitoring.

In this respect, strong leadership and fast action by the Philippine government is expected. During JICA's PPP promotion program, we are always asking ourselves; "What benefits can this project bring to the Philippine economy, environment, and living standards?"; "What positive changes can this project bring to the society?"; and also "Can this project further enhance two countries' closer tie with mutual trust and respect?"

Through that thought process, I believe that we are able to partner with the various government agencies, such as DOTr, LTO², LTFRB³, DENR, BOI, MMDA, LGUs,

¹ It is expected to contribute to, at least, SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action).

² LTO : Land Transportation Office

³ LTFRB : Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board

and many others. We are receiving invaluable advice from them to make this ELV dismantling project possible. In this sense, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all, who helped us get to where we are today. I hope that our collective vision and efforts will echo through partners who will learn and apply Japanese know-how in the sustainable ELV recycling industry.

Furthermore, my sincere respect is also going to TSURUOKA, who led this project actively all the time. MITSUI's name cannot be forgotten, too, who has been unwaveringly supporting TSURUOKA for over 60 years, and a wonderful partner of JICA. In addition, allow me to highlight the significant technical support of the world's most renowned automobile maker, Toyota Motor Corporation, whose efforts to realize sustainable society through auto industry is really marvelous. Last but not least, I would like to give a big round of applause to the Hung Family. As a reliable local partner, the Hung Family was introduced by Mitsui even before this project began, and, under the visionally leadership of Sr. Riczon Hung, they decided to establish EN-Tsumugi and lead the project to be a pioneer in this field.

As you know, this project underlines "multi-stakeholder processes." You all are kindly requested to use this project as a traction to interact, collaborate, and grow together, with the concept of Bayanihan.

In my closing, I repeat JICA's commitment to work tirelessly in order to contribute to the quality growth and prosperity of the Philippines, and to further strengthen close relationship between the Philippines and Japan. And, let's see or realize the success of this TSURUOKA and EN-Tsumugi project.

Sama sama tayong para sa Bagong Pilipinas!

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Maraming Salamat Po at Mabuhay!

Good afternoon to all of you.