

## Horasis Asia Meeting

20 - 21 November 2022, Kitakyushu, Japan

a Horasis leadership event

**Co-hosts:**

City of Kitakyushu

Horasis Asia Meeting Kitakyushu Executive Committee

# Report



## *Inspiring our future*

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## ■ **Co-chairs:**

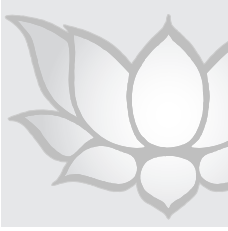
Bo Inge Andersson	Chief Executive Officer, Uzauto Motors, Uzbekistan
Claire Chen	Managing Partner, SZLT-iSource Consulting Group, Taiwan
Kobsak Chutikul	Advisor, Senate Foreign Relations Committee of Thailand, Thailand
Naushad Forbes	Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall, India
Richard David Hames	Chief Strategist, Eternus Group, Australia
Vivian Claire Liew	Climate Alpha Advisor to SWFs & Institutions, Singapore
Tatsuo Hatta	Chairman of Executive Board, Asian Growth Research Institute, Japan
Yoshito Hori	Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan
Joichi Ito	Co-Founder, Board Member, Chief Architect, Digital Garage, Japan
Tadahiro Kaneko	Deputy Head of Sustainability, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Japan
Tove Kinooka	Director and Co-Founder, Enteleco, Japan
Roger King	Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong
Nguyen Quang Huan	Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam
Girish Ramachandran	President Asia Pacific, TCS, Singapore
Murat Seitnepesov	Chairman, Caspian Week, Switzerland
Ken Shibusawa	Chief Executive Officer, Shibusawa and Company, Japan
Preity Ūpala	Founder, The Omnia Institute, India
Michael Yeoh	President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia

## ■ **Co-organizers:**

Caspian Week

PDIE – Purpose Driven Innovation

TCS



*Opening Plenary – Asia's Flux, Across Several Fronts*



*During the Opening Dinner*

# Programme



Sunday, 20 November <i>Day one</i> <i>Kitakyushu International Conference Center</i>	Monday, 21 November <i>Day two</i> <i>Kitakyushu International Conference Center</i>	Tuesday, 22 November <i>Day three</i>
	<p><b>07.30–08.45 Breakfast Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Disruptive technology transforming Asia</li> <li>– Competing in Asia's new age</li> <li>– Difficulties in defining climate transitions</li> <li>– The Arts</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>09.00–09.45 Grand Opening</b> Within Asia-Pacific – Japan is the key-stone</p>	<p><b>09.00–13.00 Sightseeing</b> Around the City of Kitakyushu</p>
	<p><b>09.45–10.45 Plenary</b> Asian economic outlook</p>	
	<p><b>10.45–11.00 Contact Break</b></p>	
	<p><b>11.00–12.30 Dialogue Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Kitakyushu Session: ESG Investment</li> <li>– Inflation is here to stay</li> <li>– Developing Asian economies</li> <li>– Asia as Blockchain breeding ground</li> </ul>	
<p><b>From 13.00 Registration</b></p>	<p><b>12.30–13.30 Lunch</b> Networking Lunch</p>	
	<p><b>13.30–14.30 Plenary</b> Asia: United in diversity</p>	
<p><b>14.00–15.30 Update Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Geo-politics in times of war</li> <li>– Reestablishing Asian-origin supply-chains</li> <li>– Asian accords to halt COVID</li> <li>– Extending gender diversity across Asia</li> </ul>	<p><b>14.30–16.00 Dialogue Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– High cost of remote learning</li> <li>– Digital transformation for sustainability</li> <li>– Stakeholder's net-zero expectations</li> <li>– Asian innovation clusters' response to COVID</li> </ul>	
<p><b>15.30–16.30 Plenary</b> Asia's flux over several fronts</p>	<p><b>16.00–16.15 Contact break</b></p>	
<p><b>16.30–17.30 Plenary</b> Developing New ESG Rules for Asia</p>	<p><b>16.15–17.45 Dialogue Sessions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Changing Dis- to U-topian</li> <li>– Considerations about digital currencies</li> <li>– How Asian entrepreneurs pioneer change</li> <li>– Business benefits of net-zero</li> </ul>	
<p><b>17.30–18.30 Reception</b> International Conference Center</p>	<p><b>17.45–18.45 Plenary</b> Achieving our agreement on climate change</p>	
	<p><b>18.45–19.00 Special Message</b> Towards the realization of a Green Society</p>	
<p><b>18.30–19.00 Move to Dinner Venue</b> Walk to Rihga Royal Hotel Kokura</p>	<p><b>19.00–19.15 Move to Dinner Venue</b> Walk to Rihga Royal Hotel Kokura</p>	
<p><b>19.00–21.30 Opening Dinner</b> Japan's economic recovery post-COVID</p>	<p><b>19.15–22.00 Closing Dinner</b> The need for a new Asian unity</p>	

# Meeting Report

By Frank-Jürgen Richter,  
Chairman, Horasis, Switzerland

Horasis convened its annual Horasis Asia Meeting in Kitakyushu, Japan hosted by the City of Kitakyushu. The meeting assembled over 300 members from government, business and civil society. Some of the most senior members of the Horasis community discussed Asia's future within six plenaries, 26 panel discussions, and frequent informal meetings. Further, delegates debated how Kitakyushu might act as an exemplar for the greening of Japan and elsewhere round the world, thus building upon its own strong revitalization over the past decades. The city is an emblem, not only of addressing pollution, but a striking example of how to eradicate it, as explained by **Kenji Kitahashi**, Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan during the Opening.

The Horasis Asia Meeting has become the foremost annual meeting for Asia Pacific business leaders and their global counterparts. The event offers businesses and government officials a platform to discuss a wide range of issues related to the economy.



Kenji Kitahashi, Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan, welcoming participants



Speakers of the Opening Plenary

The location of the meetings rotated annually and has been held in Bangkok, Thailand (2016), Kolkata, India (2017) and Binh Duong New City, Vietnam (2018, 2019), but the COVID epidemic forced a digital delivery mode in 2020 and 2021. Given the global relaxation of COVID travel restrictions, Horasis has taken the opportunity to renew the 2022 Asian in-person meeting in Kitakyushu, Japan. Its focus remains upon Asia presenting a systemic view of activities affecting the drivers of Asia's economic success and how Asian businesses interact regionally as well as globally.

The 2022 Horasis Asian Business Meeting took place in parallel with many serious events that were continuing, even unfolding. The world population has nudged over 8 billion, with 900 million of these deemed to be undernourished. Meanwhile, toxic pollution continues and about 32 billion CO<sub>2</sub> tonnes were emitted this year – and not likely to diminish much, notwithstanding demand destruction of transport fuels due to China's economic slowdown, supply chain complexities and the global inflation.

The COVID pandemic is not ended, as new variants are seen to evolve, and new outbreaks are reported across China and elsewhere: vaccine evolution continues and hopefully a



Ivan Tselichtchev, Professor of Economics, Niigata University of Management, Japan



Mai An, Co-founder and President, IMT Solutions, Vietnam



Takehiko Koyanagi, Editorial-board member, Nikkei Inc., Japan



Kenichiro Takaki, Chairman, Kitakyushu City Assembly, Japan



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Nohata Hiroyasu, President, Hybrid IT Laboratories, Japan



Christian Schmitz, Founder, PDIE – Purpose Driven Innovation, Japan



Yasushi Matsuo, Chairman, Kitakyushu Interdependent Business Consortium for Sustainable Development, Japan



Victor Guixer, Managing Partner, Guixer & Partners, Spain

cure may be found. But the pandemic's other great legacy is unresolved as yet – how to pay for its disruption in direct costs and indirect costs. The vaccine manufacturing and distribution, often based on loans have to be paid for, and poor nations are at a disadvantage. And the indirect costs of resuscitating exhausted care staff will take time. In parallel, across the globe, are mental disorders: once a hidden disease, but now more evident due to the lockdowns due to COVID. It is not possible to call its gamut of effects a disease but its end-points are dire in many cases; and in all cases, they rob the sufferer of well-being and often income.

A few days prior to the Horasis Asia Meeting, COP27 was taking place in Egypt with the usual arguments and blame attached to historical polluters, the developed nations. China and India are still classed as developing nations but are the world's first and third worst polluter – and likely to continue as they pursue high growth targets that need energy derived from fossil fuels even though they deploy greater renewable energy generation potential. On the other hand, the Gulf states, among the largest vendors of oil and gas, are turning internally to a greening agenda.



Snake Dance



*Akihiro Nishimura, Minister of the Environment, Japan, during the Grand Opening*



*Ken Shibusawa, Chief Executive Officer, Shibusawa and Company, Japan*



*Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia*

Some of the finance arguments of COP27 rolled over to the G20 meeting in Bali where finance ministers pressed delegates to resolve issues and develop creative resolute outcomes. In sidelines of the G20 there was a notable willingness of China’s President Xi to meet and exchange friendly words with Western counterparts, each seeking better trade relationships and a cessation of the Russian war in Ukraine that continues to present global consequences. Following on in the sequence of meetings attended by Presidents or Vice Presidents was APEC in Bangkok: President Xi was there and US Vice President Kamila Harris. The former opined that Asia must not become a region of ‘a big power contest’, while VP Harris reassured delegates ‘The US is here for the long haul’.

Through these meetings, it was noted the largest problem facing the world at present is controlling inflation as it has many knock-on effects within governments and for the people of the world. Its causes are many – paying off COVID debt, dealing with trade instabilities accruing from trade embargos and more recently having to cope with rapidly escalating fossil fuel unavailability and failures of food exports, especially cereals, deriving from the Ukraine invasion and continuing war. Ukraine cereals are now being permitted to flow from ports controlled by Russia; but there is no ready substitute for Russian oil and gas. Russia is ready to export these fuels but many nations have agreed not to buy them as a sanction against Russia’s invasion – but India and China, and a few smaller states continue to purchase. Their policies boost Russian finances and do not diminish global pollution prospects.



*Fabian Tan, Regional Group Director, Enterprise Singapore, Japan*



*Kimi Hasebe, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, White Ship, Japan*



*Naoki Mori, Programme Director, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan*



*Pina Hirano, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Asteria, Japan*



*Kimball Andrews, Founder, Nova Finance Group, Australia and Sailesh Purswani, President, Thai Martin Group, Thailand*





Miki Ebara, Chief International Correspondent, NHK World, Japan



Girish Ramachandran, President Asia Pacific, TCS, Singapore



Tove Kinooka, Director and Co-Founder, Enteleco, Japan



Indronil Sengupta, Chief Executive Officer, Investfy, Vietnam

In parallel, the US mid-term elections have taken place but with the predicted Republican revival not taking place: the incumbent Democratic party kept control of the Senate but the House of Representatives moved to the Republicans. Meanwhile former President Trump announced he will compete again in the 2024 election.

structure planning in its broadest sense is of paramount importance as we have little time due to our earlier procrastinations. Discussions and the development of accords through Horasis will aid these vital developments.



Tak Umezawa, Chairman Japan, A.T. Kearney, Japan

The meetings of Horasis encourage open discussion between civic, business, and other leaders to study and engage in solutions affecting all of us. But it is not only about business discussions – Horasis encourages visionary planning for our futures embracing demographics, culture and the arts to increase our well-being. Not only for our workers, but for the older people who need attentive, compassionate care, and for our youngsters who need good nourishment and education to develop our futures. Infra -

**Miki Ebara**, Chief International Correspondent, NHK World, Japan chaired the first plenary and focused on the meeting’s theme, stating Asia’s flux contains many difficult elements, beginning with its share of COVID being carried by developing nations as well as China. The latter continues to pursue a policy of Zero-COVID and suffers continuing outbreaks of the malady and ensuing lockdowns which disrupt local life, local production and ultimately the global economy. **Richard David Hames**, Chief Strategist, Eternus Group, Australia noted that when increasing complexity we



Satoshi Ikeda, Chief Sustainable Officer, FSA – Financial Services Agency of Japan, Japan



Kiran Sethi, CEO, Jupiter International Corporation, Japan



Speakers gather after a session



Ryosuke Shojima, Vice Governor, Fukuoka Prefecture, during the Opening Dinner



Tadahiro Kaneko, Deputy Head of Sustainability, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Japan



Nguyen Quang Huan, Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam

generate conditions in which society finds it almost impossible to think of viable alternatives to the status quo and, as a consequence, we defer action indefinitely, so we face the possibility of societal collapse. Japan has increased its international discussions recently in terms of defense alliances, but it carries its own long-term economic issues. **Ken Shibusawa**, Chief Executive Officer, Shibusawa and Company, Japan thought his country is in a unique position globally with respect to its management of inflation and its elaboration of capitalism. But its management is made more difficult by the confluence of world events. And these events were further mentioned by **Preity Üpala**, Founder, The Omnia Institute, India, agreeing there is much to worry about, especially with respect to the world's mutual dependence on China. This makes it difficult for the rest of the world, as China seems to be exporting debt. Presenting a

slightly different view, yet still focusing on the Asian nations' agreements, **Michael Yeoh**, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia noted how Malaysia could pursue 'middle power diplomacy' being beneficially geo-located and well connected within ASEAN and other Pacific trade and political groups.

Following on, **Girish Ramachandran**, President Asia Pacific, TCS, Singapore, chairing plenary on the SDGs, noted how Asia is becoming a center for firms to consider how to future proof their business – and posited 'what better way than to embrace SDGs?' Agreeing, **Tove Kinooka**, Director and Co-Founder, Enteleco, Japan quoted surveys that over 50% firms state they engage in SDG activity and top management is the biggest driver. 'We must ensure it is effective', she insisted. Which was agreed by **Nguyen Quang Huan**,



Junji Tsuda, President, Kitakyushu CCI, Japan



Shiko Hayashi, Programme Director, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan



Hiroka Netsu, General Manager, Suzuki Motor Corporation, Japan



Plenary Panel – Developing New ESG Rules for Asia



Joichi Ito, Co-Founder, Board Member, Chief Architect, Digital Garage, Japan



Hiroshi Komiyama, President, Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society, Japan



Richard David Hames, Chief Strategist, Eternus Group, Australia



Renita Kalhorn, Deep Tech Leadership Coach, France



Pietro Borsano, Deputy Exec. Director, Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation, Thailand



Tokihiko Shimizu, Founding Partner, Fiducia Inc, Japan



Genri Goto, Chief Executive Officer, Kotozna Inc, Japan

Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam who emphasized we must not focus on profit alone – but be responsible to our staff and our broad client base. This led well into the contribution by **Tadahiro Kaneko**, Deputy Head of Sustainability, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Japan who stressed that empowering local processes and stakeholders are as important as international cooperation to localize the context of circular economy in the context of ESG. Finally, **Joichi Ito**, Co-Founder, Board Member, Chief Architect, Digital Garage, Japan stated we have to consider the rebuilding of economies ‘like a garage’ of businesses – adding IT, market tech, and FinTech as building blocks. And ensuring that afterwards we nurture the rebuilt firms.

At dinner on the first evening delegates heard **Junji Tsuda**, President, Kitakyushu CCI, Japan describing the opening of the ‘robot village’ in which exhibitors at Kitakyushu would engage with the public to consider the relationships between robots and the public. Apart from the obvious development of business links and application’s development it is hoped the village would foster industrial tourism still further. **Ryosuke Shojima**, Vice Governor, Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan noted that Fukuoka enjoys a reputation as one of the fastest-growing startup hubs in Japan, offering a series of support initiatives for those starting up a business in the city – so is bringing together cutting-edge technology, innovative thinkers and sustainable



Sake Barrel Ceremony ‘Kagami-Biraki’



Alejandro Reyes, Professor, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong



Horasis Chairman Frank-Jürgen Richter and Horasis Director Akinori Niimi during a tea ceremony on the sidelines of the event

practices. The area has developed since 2018 when Fukuoka City signed a memorandum of understanding with the World Bank to collaborate with its City Partnership Program on the themes of ‘sustainable and livable city planning’ and ‘competitive cities’. Since then he said, we have been collaborating with the World Bank on urban issues including aging and solid waste management, as well as city planning including transit-oriented development and smart cities. Using our knowledge, we will contribute to tackling urban challenges in developing countries.

Next morning, during the Grand Opening, **Akihiro Nishimura**, Minister of the Environment, Japan said that Japan is promoting a Green Transformation and will introduce carbon pricing soon, in line with Paris 2015, and within the accords of COP27: they were expecting 150 trillion yen (\$1 million) investment over next 10 years,

including public/private partnerships. He stressed it is imperative Japan and all nations reduce their emissions to limit to 1.5 °C the rise in global temperature. Towards this goal, pan-Asian investment in carbon-neutrality will be \$40 trillion by 2050. In particular, Kitakyushu is taking a lead to maximize its use of renewables, and recycling.

Kitakyushu is also committed to city-to-city collaboration in Japan and overseas. He hoped this Horasis meeting would extend sustainable growth everywhere. **Hiroshi Komiyama**, President, Kitakyushu Asian Center for Low Carbon Society, Japan thanked his Minister and reiterated that in 2020, the City of Kitakyushu joined the national government in announcing its intention to become a zero-carbon city, aiming to achieve a decarbonized society (zero greenhouse gas emissions as a whole) by 2050. He emphasized pollution is a major issue across Asia, and globally. To aid progress, the city has expanded its research,



Aditya Berlia, Founder, Sran-Apeejay Journalism Foundation, India



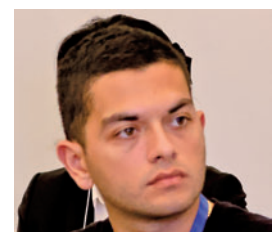
Marina Velez, Multidisciplinary Artist and Researcher, United Kingdom



Yoshiki Sasaki, Chief Executive Officer, Japan Strategic Capital, Japan



Plenary – Asia, United in Diversity



Alfonso De los Rios, CEO, Nowports, Mexico



Panel 'Extending Gender Diversity to all Parts of Asia'



Session chair Bernard Yeung, President, Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research, Singapore



Ananda Setiyo Ivannanto, Director, A-Wing Group, Indonesia

and their solutions are applicable globally to counteract climate change.



Duncan J. McCampbell, Associate Professor, Metropolitan State University, USA

The plenary concerning the Asian Economic Outlook reviewed the effect that the Russian war in the Ukraine was having upon Asia, and what may be done to alleviate its pressure. As many supply chains originate in China, global growth remains precarious, and nations worldwide are considering near- or re-shoring their once dispersed manufacturing. But their change of policy is difficult, even if desired by governments and Boards alike – they have stringent cash limits due to combating inflation following the COVID pandemic and now the disruption in food and fuel distribution following the Russian war. **Bernard Yeung**, President, Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research, Singapore chaired this plenary and suggested that Hong Kong and Singapore ought to be viewed as collaborators in the financial and political space which might solve some of the concerns of CEOs. Broadly, addressing more general issues, he opined that we must practice critical thinking in reading media reports on the two cities to judge multiple perspectives to arrive at a balanced judgment. 'Time is short' suggested **Roger King**, Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong. It will be worrying if global leaders



Kiyotake Kumazawa, General Manager, Hitachi, Japan



Kenji Yokoyama, Dean, NUCB Business School, Japan



Co-chair Roger King, Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong, making a point



Kobsak Chutikul, Advisor, Senate Foreign Relations Committee of Thailand



Charles Tang, President, Brazil China Chamber of Commerce, Brazil



J.T. Li, Professor, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and Roger King, Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong

procrastinate – there is too much to do. But there are no shortcuts – we must work hard and focus on clear visions within an Asian context. Continuing that line of thought, **Alejandro Reyes**, Professor, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong stressed we must develop education, especially the higher education sector that has to address how to develop innovation and entrepreneurship as a rounded concept. Better education and critical thinking would be of help agreed **Santosh Kaveti**, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, ProArch, Singapore who urged leaders to be innovative as it is the skill of the future. It is something he has to engage in constantly to operate ProArch in these turbulent times, as well as pressing for greater sustainability. And those ideals would

aid the Caspian Sea Region to develop a joint social sustainability initiative said **Murat Seitnepesov**, Chairman, Caspian Week, Switzerland. Through this he thinks that higher visibility will lead to improved relations between the Caspian Sea Region countries and those further afield to benefit business, education, science, and cultural relations.

**Charles Tang**, President, Brazil China Chamber of Commerce, Brazil chaired a plenary session on Asia and its diversity, accepting Asian diversity and he explained how he has incorporated his own diverse background into his present activities – saying if he can do this for the bi-lateral Brazil-China programme surely others can



Santosh Kaveti, CEO and Founder, ProArch, Singapore



John J. Ying, Managing Director, Peak Capital, Hong Kong



Metin Guvener, Founding Chairman, Optima Orbits, United Kingdom



Shin Ito, Chief Executive Officer, iKoyoo Inc., Japan



Claire Chen, Managing Partner, SZLI-iSource Consulting Group, Taiwan



Murat Seitnepesov, Chairman, Caspian Week, Switzerland



Yoshito Hori, Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan



Bo Inge Andersson, Chief Executive Officer, Uzauto Motors, Uzbekistan



Meeting co-chair Naushad Forbes, Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall, India



Tadaaki Kimura, Chief Executive Officer, Addlight, Japan



Quyen Nguyen, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Sharework, Vietnam



Toshihiro Toyoshima, Chief Executive Officer, Mercuria Investment Co., Japan



David Malkin, AI Architect, Cogent Labs, Japan

do this within the wider Asian region.

**Bo Inge Andersson**, Chief Executive Officer, Uzauto Motors, Uzbekistan followed up stating, in a sense, one must turn diversity into a common purpose. As an example, he asked delegates to consider his personal people-centered approach – questioning if his firm is being fair, do his staff give a fair-days’ work, do suppliers and his production operations work sustainably? **Claire Chen**, Managing Partner, SZLT-iSource Consulting Group, Taiwan added that for all these questions we need data to make fair judgments, and if aspects are not working, we need to change them quickly. Asia must learn how to work fairly – with large richer nations and firms helping their small companions. Following on, **Kobsak Chutikul**,

Advisor, Senate Foreign Relations Committee of Thailand, Thailand agreed are many difficulties and pressures across Asia – as noted in the recent APEC meeting endorsing the Bangkok Goals of a Bio-Circular-Green Economy to lead to a balanced, sustainable and inclusive development. In the short term, in this turbulent time, poorer nations may not be helped sufficiently by richer nations. ‘We need to pursue coordinated public policies to boost growth all over Asia,’ **Yoshito Hori**, Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan concluded.

The plenary series were closed with a discussion on ‘climate change – how could we meet our goals?’ **Naushad Forbes**, Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall, India remained



Yuki Aizawa, Malaysia Country Director, Women in Tech, Malaysia, chairing a panel on gender equality



Martin Schulze, Founder and Director, Public Delivery, Korea, chairing a session on the arts



*Sinartus Sosrodjojo, Co-founder, Fullen, Indonesia*



*John West, Executive Director, Asian Century Institute, Australia, chairing a panel*



*Tatsuo Hatta, Chairman of Executive Board, Asian Growth Research Institute, Japan*

pessimistic about India swiftly managing change – stating it does not implement internally changes rapidly via its budget promises, so why ought it to do this in -ternational to solve climate change. Yet, public/private partnerships were becoming more frequent and at scale – so perhaps businesses are taking account. Critically, **Sinartus Sosrodjojo**, Co-founder, Füllen, Indonesia said, Asia needs to invest more in research, be more innovative and more independent. Yet, over all, energy supply remains an issue for businesses. **Tatsuo Hatta**, Chairman of Executive Board, Asian Growth Research Institute, Japan pointed out, that if productivity grows, it makes up for low population growth – initially a Japanese difficulty, but now a global problem with the current world-wide reduction

in birthrates. It is important to focus on the high potential for growth that the Japanese economy has, added session chair **Tsutomu Ishiai**, Senior Staff Writer, The Asahi Shimbun, Japan. According to **Vivian Claire Liew**, Climate Alpha Advisor to SWFs & Institutions, Singapore, removing obstacles to the natural flow of resources is called ‘structural reform,’ and in most Asian countries there is great opportunity for structural reform. But the world – as COP27 has shown – is slow to engage in tackling climate change, concluded **Isabella Qin**, Chair, United Nations Association UK Young Professionals Group, United Kindom.

The meeting was concluded with a special message from the mayor of Kitakyushu who discussed and explained their realization of



*Nazli Ersen, Founder, Blink Minds, USA*



*Gabriel Levesque-Tremblay, Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder, Orbillion Bio, USA*



*Motoya Kitamura, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Northvillage Investment, Japan*



*Shaun Deverson, Director, Lighthouse Futures, Australia*



*During the Opening Ceremony*



*Vivian Claire Liew, Climate Alpha Advisor to SWFs & Institutions, Singapore*





Preity Ūpala, Founder, The Omnia Institute, India, during the Opening Plenary



Tsutomu Ishiai, Senior Staff Writer, The Asahi Shimbun, Japan, chairing the Closing Plenary



Isabella Qin, Chair, United Nations Association UK Young Professionals Group, UK



Leon Toh, Executive Director, Damson Capital, Singapore



Sunday Adejo, Co-Founder, Biody2Energy, Switzerland



Srikar Reddy, Managing Director, Sonata Software, India



Li Xu, Founder, LXI Consulting, USA

a Green Society. **Kenji Kitahashi**, Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan noted his city is located on Kyushu Island and was one of Japan’s biggest manufacturing sectors in the 1960s. This created problems of air and water pollution, causing its Dokai Bay to be called the ‘Sea of Death’. Following its realization of its own pollution there were many green initiatives beginning with women’s associations standing up for their children and families: the environment recovered remarkably and was awarded the title of ‘Gray City to a Green City’, to lead the globe by example. The city was awarded the Global 500 Award from the United Nations Environment Programme in 1990, and Local Government Honors at the Earth Summit in 1992. With other initiatives that have been recognized both in Japan and

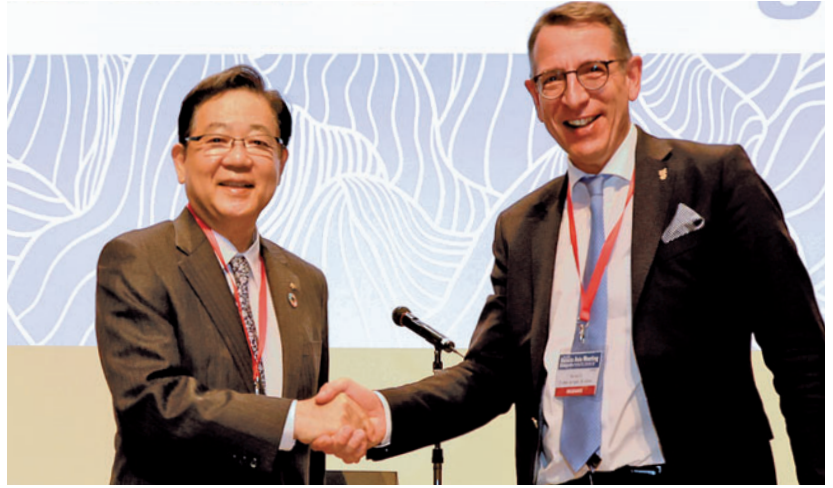
overseas, including its selection by OECD as a Green Growth City; and by the Japanese government as an Eco-Model City, Future City, and SDGs Future City. The Kitakyushu Green Frontier Plan is a plan that can be copied across the globe, leading to the Paris 2015 climate change goals. In conclusion, Kitakyushu’s history is one that involves a diverse set of stakeholders, including industries, government, academia, and the public from the time it was active in overcoming pollution (1960s) to today, and in promoting urban development with the participation of all members of society. Going forward, Kitakyushu will continue to develop together with various stakeholders, as it aims to become a new frontier for the SDGs.



Closing Plenary – Achieving Our Agreement on Climate Change



Ann Luo, Founder, CodingGirls, Singapore, making a point during a discussion



Kenji Kitahashi, Mayor of Kitakyushu & Frank-Jürgen Richter, Chairman, Horasis



Rohan Shetty, Co-founder, Icon Maritime Technologies Group, USA and Shoummo K Acharya, Chief Executive Officer, eTrans Solutions, India

During the closing dinner, **J.T. Li**, Professor, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, thanked participants and the City of Kitakyushu on behalf of the Horasis Community. He also commended delegates to support the power of innovation to face a potential global economic crisis. **Frank-Jürgen Richter**, Chairman, Horasis, Switzerland closed the meeting – thanking all the delegates and in particular the host city Kitakyushu, its mayor, and others who have aided the meetings progress. He concluded that the 7th Horasis Asia Meeting has illustrated how cooperation between the Asian nations, indeed all nations and their businesses, can develop synergies for the future. He called on the Horasis Global Community to maintain a worldwide impetus moving to solve future problems and develop future harmonies.



J.T. Li, Professor, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong



Barry Lustig, President, Cormorant Group, Japan



Andrew McGregor, Director & Founder, Oomvelt Research, USA and Ichiro Kimura, Founder & Chief Executive Officer, anect, Japan



Alberto Furger, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Amara Holding, Indonesia



Plenary Session 'Asian Economic Outlook'



Kaori Suzuki, Representative Director & Chief Executive Officer, Codo Advisory, Japan



Opening Dinner – a toast



Strict COVID measures applied



Rufus Lidman, Founder, ALAR EdTech, Singapore



Hidetoshi Uchiyama, Chief Executive Officer, Unerry, Japan



Trista Bridges, Principal and Co-founder, Read the Air, Japan



Hiroyuki Ohnishi, President, Technology Seed Incubation Co., Japan



At Kokura Castle – a group during a sightseeing tour the day after the summit



Exchanging business cards



Japanese taiko drumming



John Blakey, Founder, The Trusted Executive Foundation, UK, chairing a panel



Lou Marinoff, Professor of Philosophy, The City College of New York, USA, chairing a panel



Nobumitsu Akai, Director, JFR Group, Japan



Mie Kajikawa, Founder, Sport For Smile, Japan



Session 'Altering Geo-political Stances in the Face of War'



Nara Lee, Managing Partner, Brainchild Partners, Korea



Tatsuya Masubuchi, Chief Executive Officer, HighNetWorthLab, Japan



Kuan Yen Tan, CTO and Co-founder, IQM Quantum Computers, Finland



Daniel Koppelkamm, Managing Partner, Convergence Partners, Switzerland



Speakers preparing the next panel



Jarvovs Chen, Managing Director, Sinda Corporation UK, United Kingdom



Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, Director, Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation, Thailand



Peter Polzin, Co-founder, Heidiseum, Switzerland



Hideki Okada, Executive Officer, Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development



*Drum and Fun!*



*Kyle J Hong, Founder, Alcove Investment Management, Korea*



*Atul Temurnikar, Executive Chairman, Global Schools Foundation, Singapore*



*Participants celebrating the success of the Horasis Asia Meeting*



*Daisuke Takatsuki, Principal, Asia Operations, CVC Capital Partners, Japan*



*Kunihiko Shimada, Chief Executive Officer, K S International Strategies, Japan*



*Shun Nagao, Venture Partner, White Star Capital, Japan*



*Tris Dyson, Founder and Managing Director, Challenge Works, United Kingdom*



*Lalit Bakshi, Chairman, Golden Eagle Group, Japan*



*Kouhei Kurihara, Co-Founder, Privacy By Design Lab, Japan*



*Haruka Mitta, Artist, Japan*



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