Prospectus of the Smart City Global Network

The decline in quality of living environments and increased traffic congestion caused by rising urbanisation observed across the world are becoming ever more serious and continue to impose greater stress upon the earth's environment. Furthermore, Japan faces socioeconomic hurdles such as a declining birth rate and aging society, as well as weakening local economies in many regions. These may well become common issues facing other societies around the world, to be tackled globally in the future.

In order to address those problems and create smart cities in which people can live healthy and happy lifestyles, it is extremely important to maximize the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in line with each region's features and characteristics to solve various issues including energy, environment, healthcare and medical treatment, transport, water, disaster preparedness, crime prevention, employment, etc. in a smart manner, and create a society which enables sustainable growth.

As such, it is deemed important that companies possessing advanced ICT and other state-of-the-art technology and expertise can cooperate and work with local governments around the world to improve their technologies and policies, resulting in the creation of new social systems and innovations, which can function as a driving force for smart city development.

For this purpose, we are resolved to establish the "Smart City Global Network" to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as global smart cities through network activities. The network will serve as a venue for active participation and exchange between domestic and overseas companies and local governments in order to develop advanced smart city models by learning from others and capitalizing on their respective lifestyles and cultures.

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