

# Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy

## FY 2017 Report

Presented March 2018  
by the Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy

# Table of Contents

<b>I. Introduction</b> .....	1
<b>II. Proposals for Kyoto City</b> .....	3
1. Challenges to increase opportunities for exchanges among people with multicultural backgrounds from different generations as well as to foster leaders for multiculturalism .....	4
2. Enhancement of initiatives to deepen understanding on multiculturalism regardless of differences of nationalities and cultural backgrounds .....	6
<b>III. Documents</b> .....	8
1. In regards to the FY2018 Council Meetings.....	9
2. Kyoto City activities concerning the FY2017 Proposals.....	11
3. Number of foreign residents by nationality as registered in the Kyoto City Resident Basic Register.....	13
4 <sup>th</sup> Term Committee Members of the Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy .....	16
Regulations in regards to establishing affiliates of Kyoto City Executive Branch.....	17
Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy Regulations.....	19

# I. Introduction

In Kyoto, a city with an over 1,200-year history and culture, with an aim of becoming an ideal city, the Declaration of Kyoto as a City Open to the Free Exchange of World Cultures was signed in 1978. In the hopes of realizing this declaration, the Kyoto City Internationalization Promotion Guideline was drawn up. Furthermore, published in The Master Plan of Kyoto City is the Kyoto City Internationalization Promotion Plan aimed at transforming Kyoto into a vivid multicultural city, a policy that continues the advancement of internationalization.

There are different reasons why foreign residents came to Japan, and the concerns they have varies from person to person. Although our views concerning the acceptance of foreign residents in Japan are different depending on individuals, it is essential for Kyoto City, where people with different cultural backgrounds have already inhabited, to understand and accept different cultures. We have formed the proposals of this year from this standpoint.

These two years the Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy conducted by the 4<sup>th</sup> term committee members has actively discussed the initiatives which Kyoto City is implementing under the theme of creating a society based on multicultural coexistence, focusing on creating a community to eliminate discrimination, enhancing places and opportunities for interactions among residents, fostering future leaders for multicultural coexistence and developing initiatives for multicultural understanding, and resolving issues which foreign residents face in terms of social welfare or education. Although the term for the 4<sup>th</sup> committee members will finish at the end of this fiscal year, we hope that the council run by the 5<sup>th</sup> committee members starting in next fiscal year will continue discussing the topics to further promote multicultural coexistence.

We hope that the initiatives suggested at council meetings will be firmly adopted and the promotion of creating a community in which everyone including foreign residents is able to enjoy living and play an active part will be further developed in all around Kyoto City.

Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy  
Chairperson  
Mari Hamada

## II. Proposals for Kyoto City

\*After this page, key points of proposals are underlined and the aims for the future are written in bold.

## Proposal 1

### Challenges to increase opportunities for exchanges among people with multicultural backgrounds from different generations as well as to foster leaders for multicultural coexistence

#### Present Conditions & Issues

In Kyoto City, the number of foreign residents has been increasing for these few years and it has marked 44,282 (as of December 2017). The reasons why they live in Japan vary depending on individuals; some of them live here for historical reasons and others because they want to. There are a variety of problems related to foreign residents; for instance, some residents feel isolated because they came to Japan only because their family members wanted to and cannot find a place where they can really belong to, and others are not able to catch up with their study at school because of a language barrier. However, there are groups providing a place for exchanges as well as livelihood support and learning support to promote a more comfortable community for foreign residents to live in, though there is also an issue that the number of support members is insufficient.

It is crucial to increase opportunities for exchanges among people with multicultural backgrounds from different age groups in order to provide places for foreign residents to ask for consultations on their worries as well as for Japanese residents to deepen understanding towards foreign residents. In addition, it is essential to foster future leaders who will promote multicultural coexistence to create networks in the local community.

For example, the Korean Christian Church in Japan Kyoto Nambu Church located in the Higashi Kujo area started “Higashi Kujo Children’s Diner” in order to offer meals to children as one of the activities to contribute to the local community where many Zainichi Koreans reside. At present children visit the diner to meet their old friends at daycare centers, who go to different elementary schools, and the elderly who live alone also come to enjoy meals with children. In addition, “Bazaar Café” hosts meetings and provides programs for people with different backgrounds to deepen exchanges regardless of nationalities, races, gender and age, and to make the place for them to feel comfortable. Beyond their original purpose as a diner or a café serving meals, these places also provide opportunities for multicultural exchanges.

To increase opportunities for multicultural exchanges and networking, developing understanding towards multicultural coexistence and raising interest towards foreign residents among local residents is important, and additionally fostering leaders who are able to promote multiculturalism is necessary. Therefore, **it is important not only to provide event information but also to provide information on the details of activities, process of initiatives that have been carried out and issues to discuss related to multicultural coexistence.**

Also, in order to foster leaders promoting multicultural coexistence, it is necessary to prepare a place where they can actively work with confidence in their own cultures, and able to talk to people with the same cultural backgrounds and to actively promote their own cultures.

For this reason, **it is crucial to broaden the opportunities for foreign residents to transmit the information on history, culture and customs which they are originated from and convey them** through events such as Kyoto City Support Project for Promoting International Cultural Interaction or programs on global understanding called “PICNIK” conducted by the Kyoto City International Foundation, “kokoka Open Day” where foreign meals or cultures can be experienced, and also an enjoyable event “Higashi Kujo Madang.”

Furthermore, it is important for foreign students who may play leading roles in multicultural coexistence in the future to express their own thoughts and concerns, and share them in their own languages to build up their identity. Therefore, **it is also important to create an environment for children to use their mother tongues.**

Through continuing to advance initiatives, opportunities for exchanges among people of various generations, nationalities and cultural backgrounds must be enhanced. It will increase the number of leaders for multiculturalism, then Kyoto will be able to promote a society where all residents with different cultural backgrounds and perspectives are able to comfortably live together.

## Proposal 2

### Enhancement of initiatives to deepen multicultural understanding regardless of differences of nationalities and cultural backgrounds

#### Present Conditions & Issues

To create a city deeply rooted in multicultural coexistence, it is crucial to understand diverse cultures on which foreign residents have their base. Kyoto is a city which has developed by adopting foreign cultures. Last year, Kyoto City hosted the Culture City of East Asia Summit to advance understanding of cultural exchanges amongst China, Korea and Japan. In addition, related documents to the Korean Embassies, who visited Kyoto to carry out cultural exchanges, were added to the UNESCO's Memory of the World Register and related events were taken place in Kyoto. This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Kyoto as a City Open to the Free Exchange of World Cultures which aims at the ideal as "we must communicate with the world, and through international exchanges Kyoto must be always renewed culturally and continue to create its own unique culture." Furthermore, the Agency for Cultural Affairs is scheduled to be fully relocated in Kyoto.

To take advantage of this occasion, we would like to note that experiencing different cultures advances multicultural understanding in the local community and it will create a comfortable community to live in. By experiencing various cultures on a daily basis and enjoying the encounters, people are able to learn tolerance and different perspectives. Thus, it is important to participate in many cultural activities related to traditional culture and food, sports and education. The increase in number of people who respect diversity will help create a society which is comfortable for everyone to live in, where anyone can be a cultural leader even if he/she is not originally from the area.

Then, it is important to undertake the initiatives not only to convey the culture which the person is originated from but also to educate successors of cultures beyond the differences of nationalities and cultural backgrounds, for instance, Japanese can be a leader of foreign culture and a non-Japanese can be a leader of Japanese culture.

In Kyoto, for instance, there is a person from Europe who works to spread Japanese tea culture and a Japanese national who teaches Chinese martial arts.

**It is essential to give information on various initiatives to deepen multicultural understanding through the social media and to transmit the information in multiple languages for Japanese and non-Japanese residents to learn about multiculturalism.**

On the other hand, due to lack of understanding on cultural differences, there are cases that foreign residents are offered meals which they cannot eat at hospitals, etc. or that teachers at school hurt returnee/foreign students because the teachers do not understand their cultural backgrounds.

It is also reported that Chinese returnees and Zainichi Koreans with the Japanese nationality and Chinese/Korean backgrounds tend to be isolated at a nursing facility because they are not familiar with Japanese culture.



These issues are derived from lack of multicultural understanding by care workers and school teachers, therefore advancing understanding of cultural diversity is important to solve these problems.

**It is important to enhance training for professionals to deepen understanding on multiculturalism**, especially for city officials who often work for foreign residents in a social welfare setting or at a civic service counter, or for teachers working at schools where many returnee/foreign students are studying.

It is thought that the adoption of initiatives like these will advance the citizens' understanding on diverse culture and their tolerance, and promote a multicultural society.

## **IV. Documents**

## **1. In regards to the FY2017 Council Meetings:**

Four meetings were held in FY2017 around the theme “creating a city deeply rooted in multicultural coexistence.” At each meeting, experts in various fields reported on initiatives for multicultural coexistence and then a discussion was held.

### **Meeting 1**

Date: Tuesday June 20, 2017  
Venue: Bazaar Café  
Topic of discussion: Foreign Residents and the Local Community 1  
Report: From trying to start the Higashi Kujo Children’s Diner  
(Rev. Baekki Heo Ko, Korean Christian Church in Japan Kyoto Nambu Church)  
  
Starting to value every single person: a place to connect with each other  
-Bazaar Café Activity Report  
(Reika Kojima & Asami Hazama, Bazaar Café)

### **Meeting 2**

Date: Tuesday September 12, 2017  
Venue: Yuuhisai Koudoukan  
Topic of discussion: Foreign Residents and the Local Community 2  
Report: Yuuhisai Koudoukan – presenting Traditional Culture to the World  
(Council Member Cislerova Kristyna)

### **Meeting 3**

Date: Tuesday November 28, 2017  
Venue: Kyoto City Hall  
Topic of discussion: Foreign Residents and the Local Community 3  
Report: Xi yang hong no kai Activities  
(Associate Professor Yukifumi Makita, Fukuyama City University Urban Management Department)  
  
Concerning Xu Qucheng Zhongguo Wushu Yanjiuhui  
(Council Member Jyo Gen Yi)

### **Meeting 4**

Date: Tuesday January 23, 2018  
Venue: Kyoto City Hall  
Topic of discussion: In regards to FY2017 Proposals

**Summary of Opinions Voiced at the Meetings** (excludes items reflected in the proposals)

1. The problem of language barrier is a serious issue. If people cannot communicate with a language, they are discouraged to get connected to other people. It is important for them to receive support for learning Japanese.
2. When you try to transmit cultures, it is crucial to convey its essence.
3. Connecting traditional culture and young people is also important for multicultural exchanges. For example, there are students from abroad who come to Japan to learn Japanese and experience Japanese culture. For those young people, it is best to give chances to learn Japanese traditional culture such as tea ceremony, Japanese flower arrangement as well as to learn Japanese language.
4. There is no survey to show how many people do not understand Japanese and need support. We must investigate it.
5. Through being a volunteer staff at Japanese language lessons, young people can learn about multiculturalism. For multicultural understanding, it is necessary to create a system to help people meet others through sports and food.
6. Amongst foreign residents, there may be people who came to Japan due to their parents or family related reasons. For those people, especially those who were not willing to come to Japan, support from others is necessary.
7. From childhood, it is crucial to have opportunities to experience different cultures.

## **2. Kyoto City activities concerning the accepted FY2017 Proposals**

In response to proposals made by the Council in 2017, Kyoto City has both undertaken work on new projects and enlarged existing ones, advancing the following initiatives.

### **[Proposal 1] Enhancement of initiatives to deepen understanding concerning foreign residents to promote a society without discrimination and prejudice**

#### **[FY 2017 Initiatives]**

#### **(1) Placement of posters and leaflets focused on “Hate Speech” and distribution of related leaflets**

In the Human Rights Awareness Month in December, posters and leaflets on “Hate Speech” made by the Ministry of Justice were placed at ward offices, ward branch offices, libraries, stations and over a hundred of relating venues. Additionally, booklets made by Kyoto Prefecture as well as manga booklets published by the Ministry of Justice were distributed in related venues to promote the initiative.

#### **(2) Holding “National Culture Exchange Conference on the Korean Embassies”**

On 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November, the National Culture Exchange Conference on the Korean Embassies was held. In purpose of raising the awareness of multicultural coexistence, it promoted the exchanges and mutual understanding between Japan and Korea by widely transmitting the spirit of “Exchange of Royalty,” on which the Japan and Korea friendship has its base. Various events such as a keynote lecture, dance and drama production, and a parade reviving the procession of the Korean Embassy were carried out in places around the city.

#### **(3) Enhancement of initiatives related to the League of Historical Cities Picture Books Exhibition**

Every year, Kyoto City International Community House holds the League of Historical Cities Picture Books Exhibition, which aimed at using picture books to help visitors be more familiar with cultures around the world. In addition to picture books, we enhanced the volume of multilingual picture-story cards to advance children’s multicultural understanding.

### **[Proposal 2] Enhancement of spaces and opportunities to strengthen mutual exchange between foreign and Japanese residents**

#### **[FY 2017 Initiatives]**

#### **(1) Holding the Friendship City Youth Forum**

During the three days of 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> August, foreign students from the Kyoto Friendship Cities and municipal high school students gathered to discuss their issues and resolutions under the themes of “culture,” “environment” and “globalization,” and formulated the Action Plan. Through the meetings, the high school students were able to deepen the understanding on

foreign cultures.

**(2) Promotion of the “National Culture Exchange Conference on the Korean Embassies” through the media**

To achieve the purpose of raising awareness of multicultural coexistence through the exchanges and mutual understanding between Korea and Japan, we carried out our promotion through the media of various kind to encourage citizens to take part in the conference. The promotional activities include the publication of leaflets and posters, distribution of them at the associated facilities and events, active announcement through Shimin-Shinbun (Kyoto City free monthly newspaper), the Kyoto International Community House (kokoka) email magazine, Kyoto City Network Salon for Community Welfare and Multicultural Exchange Facebook page, the website of Culture City of East Asia 2017 Kyoto, and email magazine of the Consortium of Universities in Kyoto, etc.

**(3) Exhibition of panels for Easy Japanese**

To promote Easy Japanese (*yasashii nihongo*), we created panels explaining how Easy Japanese should be used showing useful examples, and exhibited them at an event called “Human Stage in Kyoto 2018,” that was held in order to promote human rights.

### 3. Number of foreign residents by nationality registered in the Resident Basic Register of Kyoto City

(Number of individuals as of the end of December 2017)

Country of Nationality	Number Registered	Country of Nationality	Number Registered	Country of Nationality	Number Registered
South Korea	19617	Denmark	20	Burkina Faso	4
China	11345	Austria	19	Mali	4
Vietnam	1696	Norway	18	Lebanon	4
North Korea	1482	Kazakhstan	17	Albania	3
Taiwan	1419	Greece	17	El Salvador	3
U.S.A.	1132	Syria	17	Guatemala	3
Philippines	1065	Bulgaria	17	Nicaragua	3
Indonesia	620	Laos	16	Belarus	3
France	564	Argentina	14	Latvia	3
Nepal	500	Czech Republic	14	Luxembourg	3
Thailand	405	Chile	14	Uruguay	2
U.K.	394	Slovakia	13	Ghana	2
India	337	Uzbekistan	12	Cuba	2
Canada	268	Nigeria	12	Kuwait	2
Germany	265	Palestine	12	Georgia	2
Australia	240	Portugal	12	Cote d'Ivoire	2
Italy	181	Democratic Republic of the Congo	11	Costa Rica	2
Malaysia	181	Jamaica	10	Zambia	2
Russia	171	Sudan	9	Sierra Leone	2
Brazil	139	Libya	9	Serbia	2
Sri Lanka	138	Tunisia	8	Solomon Islands	2
Myanmar	116	Bolivia	8	Dominican Republic	2
Spain	107	Madagascar	8	Panama	2
Bangladesh	92	Estonia	7	Brunei	2
Mongolia	91	Croatia	7	Benin	2
Egypt	79	Saudi Arabia	7	Honduras	2
Mexico	76	Zimbabwe	7	Macedonia (formerly Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)	2
New Zealand	73	Tonga	7	Mauritius	2
Peru	73	Jordan	7	United Arab Emirates	1
Singapore	68	Uganda	6	Andorra	1
Sweden	59	Guinea	6	Yemen	1

Iran	58	Slovenia	6	Gambia	1
Turkey	57	Senegal	6	Kiribati	1
Cambodia	55	Paraguay	6	Grenada	1
Netherlands	50	Mozambique	6	Kosovo	1
Switzerland	49	Morocco	6	Samoa	1
Finland	49	Angola	5	Swaziland	1
Belgium	47	Papua New Guinea	5	Serbia and Montenegro	1
Israel	37	Venezuela	5	Somalia	1
Romania	36	Lithuania	5	Tajikistan	1
Ireland	35	Iceland	4	Bahrain	1
Republic of South Africa	33	Azerbaijan	4	Palau	1
Afghanistan	29	Algeria	4	Botswana	1
Hungary	28	Ethiopia	4	Malawi	1
Poland	28	Oman	4	Maldives	1
Ukraine	27	Gabon	4	Moldova	1
Kyrgyzstan	24	Cameroon	4	South Sudan	1
Kenya	23	Cyprus	4	Stateless/no fixed nationality*	41
Colombia	22	Tanzania	4	Total (147 Countries & Regions)	<b>44,282</b>
Pakistan	22	Fiji	4		

Reference	
Number of registered foreign residents for the last 5 years	
2012	40,676
2013	40,323
2014	40,565
2015	41,609
2016	42,567

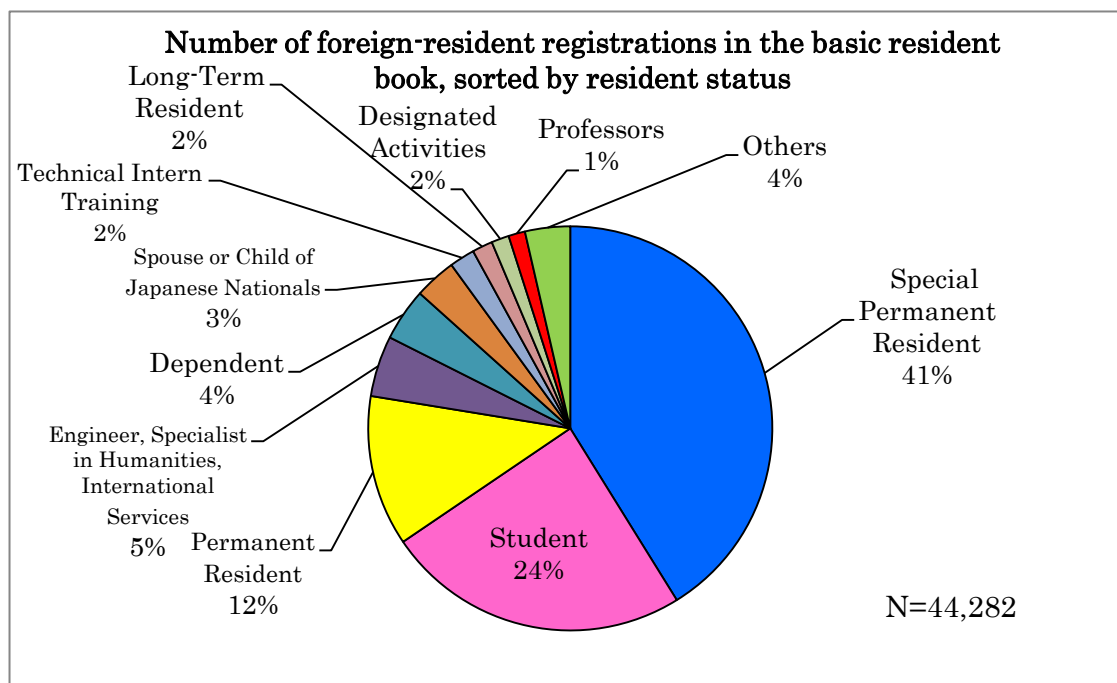
\*Concerning the meaning of Stateless/no fixed nationality includes children born in Japan and issued birth certificates, but who are awaiting visas, in addition to persons who do not have passports, id, or documents confirming their nationality, etc.



## Number of foreign-resident registrations in the basic resident book, sorted by resident status

(Number of individuals as of the end of December 2017)

Status of Residence	Number of people
Special Permanent Resident	18,226
Student	10,785
Permanent Resident	5,338
Engineer, Specialist in Humanities, International Services	2,153
Dependent	1,864
Spouse or Child of Japanese Nationals	1,485
Technical Intern Training	896
Long-Term Resident	725
Designated Activities	625
Professor	588
Others	1,597
Total	44,282



## Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy 4<sup>th</sup> Term Committee Members

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Designations</i>
<i>Nominated members</i>	Izumi Ando	Director, Kyoto YWCA
	Mihaeng Sohn	Associate Professor, Graduate School of Human Sciences, Osaka University
	Mari Hamada	Professor, Kyoto University of Education Director, Kyoto City International Foundation
	Shigemitsu Murai	Director, Kyoto City Youth Service Foundation Fushimi Branch
	Kiyoshi Yamauchi	Superintendent, Kyoto City International Foundation Managing Director, Kyoto City International Foundation
<i>Publicly recruited members</i>	William Ross Hall	England
	Sae Cardonnel	Japan
	Hwang Kim	South Korea
	Zsuzsanna Szabo	Hungary
	Jyo Gen Yi	Japan
	Kristyna Cislerova	Czech Republic
	Derek Macatantan	United States

- The term of office is two years, from April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2018
- Nominated members were appointed at the discretion of the Mayor
- Publicly recruited members were selected after a public appeal by the city for applications

## **Regulations in regards to establishing affiliates of Kyoto City Executive Branch**

### **(Intent)**

Article 1. This ordinance stipulates items necessary in establishing the affiliated organizations of Kyoto City administration except those items stipulated by national laws and other ordinances.

### **(Establishment)**

Article 2. In establishing an affiliated organization under the Mayor and Kyoto City Board of Education, its name and the scope of duties and number of committee members and their term are described in the attached table 1 (regarding the affiliated organization under the Mayor) and table 2 (regarding the affiliated organization under Kyoto Board of Education).

2. Other than the abovementioned affiliated organizations, the Mayor and other administrative organizations may establish an affiliated organization provided its term is one year or less.

3. The Mayor and other administrative organizations shall report the establishment of an affiliated organization as stipulated in the above clause, to the city assembly.

### **(Appointment of committee members)**

Article 3. The committee members of an affiliated organization (one mentioned in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> clauses of the above article. Hereafter the same applies for the 1<sup>st</sup> clause of the following article and Articles 5 and 8.) shall be commissioned or appointed by the Mayor or other person among those who have professional knowledge and who are admitted by the Mayor as being appropriate for the relevant organization.

### **(Exception for the term of committee members)**

Article 4. Regardless of 1<sup>st</sup> clause of Article 2, the term of fill-in committee members is that of their predecessors.

2. Committee members stipulated under clause 1 of Article 2 may be reappointed.

### **(Special committee members and professional committee members)**

Article 5. In case that the affiliated organization shall investigate or discuss a special matter, a special committee member position may be established, and in case that it shall investigate a technical matter, a professional committee member position may be established.

2. Special committee members and professional committee members are commissioned or appointed by the Mayor among those who have professional knowledge and who are admitted by the Mayor as being appropriate for the position.

3. Special committee members shall be decommissioned or dismissed after the investigation or discussion on the special matter is completed, and professional committee members shall be decommissioned or dismissed after the investigation on the technical matter is completed.

### **(Divisions)**

Article 6. The affiliated organization may establish a division in order to investigate or discuss a special or technical matter.

2. The affiliated organization may regard the decision of the division as its own decision as stipulated under its own clause.

### **(Duty to protect secrets)**

Article 7. The committee members including special and technical committee members shall keep the secrets obtained during their service. They shall continue to keep them after their service.

### **(Commission)**

Article 8. Other than the items stipulated under this ordinance, necessary items concerning the affiliated organization shall be stipulated by the Mayor or other person.

**Additional Rules**

**(Date of enforcement)**

This ordinance shall be enforced on the date of promulgation.

(omitted)

Attached table (Relevant to Article 2)

1. Affiliated organization of the Mayor

<i>Name</i>	<i>Duties</i>	<i>Fixed number of Council members</i>	<i>Term of Council members</i>
Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy	To investigate and discuss the matters consulted on by the Mayor about progress in the promotion of multicultural coexistence at the local level (whereby people of different nationalities and ethnicities discuss cultural differences and thereby develop an equal relationship, so as to become shapers of local communities).	12 people or fewer	2 years
(omitted)	(omitted)	(omitted)	(omitted)

2. (omitted)

## **Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy Regulations**

### **(Intent)**

Article 1. This outline is created to cover the necessary items for the Kyoto City Council on Multicultural Policy (hereafter called “the Council”), on the basis of Article 8 of Kyoto City Ordinance on the Establishment of Affiliated Organizations of Kyoto City Administration.

### **(Chairperson)**

Article 2. The Council shall have a chairperson.

2 The chairperson shall be chosen by mutual vote.

3 The chairperson shall represent and manage the Council.

4 If the chairperson is absent, another council member that the chairperson has chosen will be the chairperson’s proxy and take on the chairperson’s duties.

### **(Convening and proceedings)**

Article 3. The chairperson shall convene the Council. However, if both the chairperson and their proxy are absent, the mayor shall convene the Council.

2 The chairperson shall chair the Council.

3 The Council achieves a quorum by the attendance of more than half of members.

4 Decision shall be made by the majority of votes. In the case of a tie, the chairperson shall make a decision.

5 If necessary, the Council shall ask non-members to deliver their opinions, explanations, and other necessary help.

### **(Clerical work)**

Article 4. The clerical work of the Council shall be done by the General Planning Bureau.

### **(Supplementary rules)**

Article 5. Necessary articles for the management of the Council other than those stipulated under this outline shall be decided by the chairperson.

(omitted)

### **Additional rules**

#### **(Date of enforcement)**

This ordinance shall be enforced on the date of promulgation.

(The date of promulgation is January 8, 2015.)

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