February 6, 2026

64th Kansai Economic and Management Summit
Organizers' Declaration

It is of vital importance that we pass the philosophy of Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan, which closed last year to great acclaim, on to the next generation and link its achievements to the growth of the Kansai region and Japan as a whole.

The world is currently undergoing unprecedented upheaval, characterized by rising geopolitical risks, instability in the free trade system, and rapid technological innovations such as AI. Turning our eyes to Japan, changes in demographic structure and stagnating regional economies are profoundly impacting corporate management and local communities. Our traditional growth models now stand at a major crossroads.

In order to achieve a sustainable future society, the time has come for every individual to take concrete action toward a new stage. With this determination and resolve, we, as business leaders, will push forward with the following initiatives.

- We aim to foster growth industries that will offer advantages for the Kansai region through the social implementation of new technologies and innovation and be a legacy of the expo. We will steadily implement the changes and new values brought about by the expo and take concrete measures to bridge them with the sustainable growth of the Kansai region.

- Through an industry-academia-government collaboration, we will refine the appeal of our regions through means such as tourism, MICE, entertainment, and urban infrastructure to improve both the quantity and quality of tourism. Based on the philosophy that "cities nurture industry," we will build and deploy a branding strategy centered on innovation and co-creation that leverages the strengths of the wider Kansai area as a whole to drive its economy forward.

- To adapt to population aging and demographic decline, corporations, governments, communities, and individuals must treat these challenges as their own and collaborate to build a sustainable socio-economic system. In response to the urgent issues of labor shortages and shifting market structures, companies must overcome these hurdles through concrete adaptation measures, starting with wage increases.

- As the hiring of international talent progresses, largely due to domestic labor shortages, companies have to promote diversity management and strive to create environments where diverse human resources can thrive regardless of nationality. To ensure coexistence with local communities, we must deepen cooperation with the national government, local municipalities, and other stakeholders to promote mutual understanding with foreign residents.

- We must catch the unprecedented wave of technological transformation to accelerate Japan's development and implementation of AI technologies. National and local governments, along with private enterprises, must collaborate on establishing rules and governance, promoting investment, and developing human resources. The goal is to focus not only on efficiency but also on value creation and enhancing international competitiveness.

- We will link the value of sports to corporate strategy and regional revitalization. By utilizing sports to promote health and productivity management, employee engagement, corporate social responsibility, etc., and by seizing opportunities such as the World Masters Games 2027 KANSAI, we should aim to enhance corporate value and create vibrant regional communities.