

## Showcasing the Possibilities and Potentials of a Mature City to the World



This past summer, Tokyo was chosen as Japan's candidate to apply for hosting the 2016 Olympic Games. Just as the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games showed the world how the city had been rebuilt from the rubbles of war and had completely transformed, placing the country on track for rapid growth, the games slated for 10 years from now will provide the city, now reaching maturity after a developmental phase, with a precious opportunity to become an even more functional and attractive metropolis.

"Tokyo's Big Change ~The 10-Year Plan~" is our vision for Tokyo in the near future. It lays out our plans to achieve an even higher level of development, not only in terms of urban infrastructure, but also in regard to the environment, safety, culture, tourism, industry, and various other areas.

Using the opportunity presented by the Olympic bid, Tokyo will lead the country in regaining its momentum and see "The Sun Also Rises", as a well-known economic journalist wrote, by advancing change that makes the most of its urban features, its high concentration of cutting-edge technologies, and numerous other facilities that only a national capital can provide. At the same time, Tokyo will serve as a new model city for the 21st century, leading other cities around the world with numerous innovative projects slated for completion over the next decade.

Toward this end, we will comprehensively develop and implement realistic policies that only Tokyo is capable of by fully utilizing the know-how and experiences gained from overcoming numerous challenges to date.

Built through the tremendous endeavors and wisdom of our ancestors during the Edo (1603-1867) and Meiji (1868-1912) periods, Tokyo is one of the world's most prominent cities and it is our responsibility to pass on this glorious history to future generations.

During the next decade, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government will eliminate the adverse legacies of the 20th century while transforming Tokyo into a totally new city with enhanced maturity, beauty, safety and comfort, passing on a new history to the coming generations.

December 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Ishihara".

Shintaro Ishihara  
Governor of Tokyo