



Email newsletter vol. 36

June 5, 2023

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We are sending you Vol. 36 of Tokyo Metropolitan Government: WHAT'S UP, the email newsletter issued by the International Affairs Division of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

● COVID-19 downgraded to a Class 5 infectious disease

On May 8, 2023, COVID-19 was downgraded to a Class 5 infectious disease*, marking a turning point in the long 1,200 day battle against the virus. Governor Koike released a video message on this, in which she explains Tokyo's policy for response after this reclassification as a Class 5 infectious disease. Calling for a "sustainable recovery," Tokyo will place the highest priority on the lives and wellbeing of the Tokyo residents, and will strive not just for a return to pre-COVID days, but to also ensure a vibrant Tokyo that lives with COVID.

On June 2, both a document, Tokyo Post-corona: Toward a Vibrant City, concerning know-how gained through Tokyo's experiences and response to COVID-19, which can be utilized in future measures against infectious diseases, and a short video looking back on Tokyo's initiatives taken over the 1,200 days since the outbreak of COVID-19 to its downgrade to a Class 5 infectious disease, were released. In addition, the response taken by Tokyo and an analysis of the various impacts of COVID-19 on society were also

compiled in two reports.

*A Class 5 categorization includes common infectious diseases such as seasonal influenza.

- Governor Koike’s video message (in English)

<https://tokyodouga.jp/lpo4kquidkk.html>



- Tokyo Post-corona: Toward a Vibrant City (in English)

https://www.seisakukikaku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/cross-efforts/2023/06/images/letter_Eng.pdf



- (Video) Tokyo Post-corona ~Toward a vibrant City~ (in English)

https://tokyodouga.jp/k40_93sa2yg.html

- Initiatives Taken by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government for COVID-19 Response (in English)

- A multi-perspective analysis of the social impacts of COVID-19 (in English)

<https://www.seisakukikaku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/cross-efforts/corona/torikumi.html>

*The contents of the above “Initiatives Taken by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government for COVID-19 Response” will be renewed.

● G-NETS 2023-2024 meetings



(G-NETS Leaders Summit Joint Press Conference)

Last year, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government launched a new international network of cities, Global City Network for Sustainability (G-NETS), to serve as a forum for cities to meet and discuss how to solve the common challenges they face from various angles, as well as from the various levels of working-level staff, senior officials, and leaders. Separate meetings were held for each level. In 2023-2024, G-NETS meetings are

scheduled to be held as shown below.

	Working Group Plenary Meeting	Senior Officials Meeting	Leaders Summit
Date	Late September 2023	Late November 2023	May 15-17, 2024
Style	Online	In-person	In-person
Location	—	Tokyo	Tokyo
Participants	Working-level staff	Senior officials	Mayors/Governors

For details, please see the attached PDF “G-NETS 2023-2024.”

Please see details on G-NETS [here](#).



● Tokyo Aquatics Centre Reopens



A ceremony to mark the reopening of the Tokyo Aquatics Centre from FY 2023 was held in April, attended by Governor Koike. With the reopening of this facility, all of the new permanent facilities constructed for the Tokyo 2020 Games have opened. The swimming facilities of the Tokyo Aquatics Centre are of the world’s highest level. Using such legacies of the 2020 Games, Tokyo offers everyone opportunities to participate in sports.

Please see the details [here](#). We hope you will also enjoy using these facilities.

● **The interactive game app “Hyper Edohaku Ginza: From Edo to Tokyo” has been released**



“Hyper Edohaku: Meiji Ginza Edition” was released on April 26 as the second part of “Hyper Edohaku,” the Edo Tokyo Museum’s pioneering interactive game app, which was the first to be released by a museum in Japan that fully utilizes a game engine. The Tokyo Ginza area in the Meiji era, which was avidly assimilating Western culture, is reproduced in 3D graphics using the museum’s scale models of the Ginza brick town and materials from that time. Players time travel through Ginza in that era as they search for 100 museum items hidden in the app. This game is an enjoyable way for everyone, from children to adults, to find out more about the systems and culture that make up today’s Tokyo.

Please see the details [here](#).

Hyper Edohaku: Meiji Ginza Edition special website

<https://hyper.edohaku.jp/en/ginza/>



Please look forward to future issues featuring the latest initiatives taken by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. We will be more than happy if this information serves as reference to you in tackling the challenges our cities share in common.

(The TMG International PR Team)

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Find more information on the [TMG website](#).
You can view previous issues of WHAT'S UP [here](#).

This mail is sent to colleagues who have exchanged contact details with us in the past.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please inform us by email.

If you would like to have it sent to another email address, or would like to add another email address, please also inform us by email.

5月号の参考和訳

●新型コロナウイルス感染症が5類へ移行

令和5年5月8日に、新型コロナウイルス感染症は、5類感染症(*)に位置付けられました。1200日にも及ぶコロナとの長い闘いも転換点を迎えました。これを受け、小池知事がビデオメッセージを発信しました。5類移行後の都の対応方針として、「サステナブル・リカバリー」と称し、都民の命と健康を最優先に、かつての日常を取り戻すだけでなく、コロナとも共存した活気あふれる東京を確かなものにしていくことを掲げました。

また、6月2日には、新型コロナウイルス感染症に対する都の取組とその経験を通じて得た、今後の感染症対策に生かせる知見等について資料「ポストコロナの東京」を作成するとともに、新型コロナウイルス感染症が発生してから5類移行までの1200日の都の取組を振り返るダイジェスト動画を公開しました。加えて、これまでの都の対応と、社会に与えた様々な影響の分析をまとめました。

*5類感染症は、季節性インフルエンザと同類の位置づけです。

＜小池知事のビデオメッセージ（英語）＞

<https://tokyodouga.jp/lpo4kquldkk.html>

＜ポストコロナの東京（英語）＞

https://www.seisakukikaku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/cross-efforts/2023/06/images/letter_Eng.pdf

＜新型コロナウイルス感染症対策ダイジェスト動画（英語）＞

https://tokyodouga.jp/k40_93sa2yg.html

＜新型コロナウイルス感染症対策に係る東京都の取組（英語）＞

＜「多様な切り口から分析する新型コロナウイルス感染症が社会に与えた影響」＞

<https://www.seisakukikaku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/en/cross-efforts/corona/torikumi.html>

※今後内容が更新されます。

●G-NETS 2023-2024 meetings



(G-NETS Leaders Summit Joint Press Conference)

昨年、東京都は、世界の共通課題の解決に向けて、実務担当者、実務責任者、首長級のそれぞれ異なるレベルの視点から多角的に議論をする場を設置するため、新たな国際都市ネットワークである「Global City Network for Sustainability (G-NETS)」を立ち上げ、レベル別に3つの会議を開催しました。2023年～2024年には、以下のとおり会議を開催予定です。

	Working Group Plenary Meeting	Senior Officials Meeting	Leaders Summit
Date	Late September 2023	Late November 2023	May 15-17, 2024
Style	Online	In-person	In-person
Location	—	Tokyo	Tokyo
Participants	Working-level staff	Senior officials	Mayors/Governors

詳細は、添付のPDFファイル「G-NETS 2023-2024」をご覧ください。

G-NETSについては、[こちら](#)をご覧ください。

●東京アクアティクスセンター再開業



4月、東京アクアティクスセンターが再開業し、小池知事も出席し、再開業セレモニーが開催されました。東京アクアティクスセンターの再開業をもって、東京2020大会を機に整備された新規恒久施設が、全て開業します。東京アクアティクスセンターは、世界最高水準の水泳場です。こうした大会のレガシーを生き、皆様にスポーツの機会を提供してまいります。

[こちら](#)をご覧ください、皆さまもぜひご利用ください。

● 体験型ゲームアプリ「ハイパー江戸博 明治銀座編」をリリース



東京都江戸東京博物館は、国内博物館では初となるゲームエンジンを本格利用した体験型アプリ「ハイパー江戸博」の第2弾として、「ハイパー江戸博 明治銀座編」を、4月26日にリリースしました。文明開化にきらめく明治時代の東京銀座を、江戸東京博物館にある銀座煉瓦街の模型や当時の資料をもとに、3D空間で再現しました。ユーザーはアプリに隠された100点の収蔵品を探しながら、西洋化がすすむ明治時代の銀座を時間旅行します。現在の東京を形成した制度や文化を、アプリを通して、子供から大人まで楽しみながら学ぶことができます。

詳細は、[こちら](#)をご覧ください。

<ハイパー江戸博（明治銀座編）特設サイト>

<https://hyper.edohaku.jp/en/ginza/>



Global City Network for Sustainability (G-NETS)

Amid an increasingly tense international situation, the world is confronting serious threats in forms such as the climate crisis and the energy and food crises. Cities also face many common challenges including rapid urbanization, declining birthrates and an aging population. Taking appropriate actions that consider the rapid advancement of digital technologies are of great importance as well. At the frontlines of response to such issues are the cities of the world. In order to realize just and sustainable societies, cities must work together in close cooperation and, through their collective knowledge and experiences, tackle these huge risks.

Accordingly, last year, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government launched a new international network of cities, **Global City Network for Sustainability (G-NETS)**, to serve as a forum for cities to meet and discuss how to solve the common challenges we face from various angles, as well as from the various levels of working-level staff, senior officials, and leaders. Separate meetings were held for each level.



(G-NETS Leaders Summit Joint Press Conference)

■G-NETS FY 2022 meetings

Working-level Staff Online Meeting September 7-9, 2022 Participation: 30 cities

The Working-level Staff Online Meeting's aim was to build relationships and share knowledge among those in charge of issues on the working level. In line with specified topics, concrete projects, their background and the difficulties encountered were presented by each city to share their initiatives, knowledge and experiences.

Senior Officials Meeting November 28-29, 2022 Participation: 31 cities

The Senior Officials Meeting was held to strengthen relations on the senior level and prepare a communiqué to be announced at the Leaders Summit. At this meeting, cities confirmed the status of their initiatives and strengthened relations by sharing their measures and ideas.

Leaders Summit February 27-March 1, 2023 Participation: 34 cities

Mayors, governors, and other high-level officials representing the network cities participated in the meeting with the aim to strengthen cooperation and to finalize and announce the communiqué. Mayors/Governors made presentations on their cities' or states' policies, the outlook for the future, and other such topics. It was reaffirmed that they will cooperate to resolve challenges, and the communiqué was sent out to the world as the outcome of the meeting.

In 2023-2024, G-NETS meetings are scheduled to be held as shown below.

■G-NETS 2023-2024 meetings

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■ Working Groups

With the approval of the participating cities, it was decided at the G-NETS Leaders Summit in March 2023 to establish **Working Groups** consisting of working-level staff from the participating cities. At the Working Group Plenary Meeting, various working groups will be formed to conduct ongoing discussions on more practical approaches (e.g. joint projects) to solve common issues.



(Session)



(Plenary Session)



(Site Visit)

The purpose of G-NETS is to share knowledge and experience so that cities around the world, which are confronting a harsh international environment, can work together to realize sustainable societies. Along with further strengthening intercity cooperation, through proactive communication between cities to resolve challenges, we hope that the network will also inspire the creation of policies that will forge a bright future.

We look forward to working closely with you in the operation of this network. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.



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