

To Whom it may concern,

March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018

Association to Eliminate pollution from Osaka

President

Dr. Kunio Kanatani

Please let us inform that we are opposing the casino expo plan in Osaka in 2025.

We are the groups which move into action for the purpose of objecting to pollution and following environment.

We thank you from our hearts for making efforts to build peace and friendship between Japan and your country.

Now, Osaka Prefecture and Osaka City are applying to be hosts for the 2025 International Expo. The International Expo has a lofty and deserved reputation for a treaty which is aimed primarily at public education and excludes activities of a commercial nature.

However, the expo that is scheduled to be held in Osaka in 2025 is planned to be held with an IR (integrated resort) approach, mainly based on the establishment of a casino. We believe it is not in line with the purpose of the exposition. In their statement for which they apply to hold the expo, they didn't tell that it will be held with a casino.

To realize this "Casino Expo", a casino gambling legislation law was enacted in the National Diet on December 15, 2016, although 70% of the people of Japan objected to it. Of course casino is gambling. According to a poll, more than 70 percent are opposite to a casino.

Currently in Japan, casinos are forbidden by law, but there are more than ten thousand places for gambling throughout the country, including pachinko (a kind of slot machine) parlors, horse racing, bicycle racing, speed boat racing, and lotteries. As a consequence, there are more than five million gambling-addicted patients, and tragedies involving families are increasing. If a casino is brought into Japan, the tragedy will expand and develop new layers.

Prime Minister Abe has said it is to be "the world's cleanest casino", "using the world's highest level of gambling addiction measures", but there is no effective therapy or drug development for gambling addiction. We believe that the most efficient addictive measure is simply to not create places for gambling.

What we are worried above all is that the site that is planned to house this exhibition, Yumeshima Island, is in fact an "industrial waste landfill" in Osaka Bay. A lot of chemical substances, such as PCBs (Polychlorinated Biphenyl), hexavalent

chromium, etc. are buried on Yumeshima Island.

As you will be aware, Japan is a country with frequent earthquakes. A massive earthquake is expected with 70-80% of probability within 30 years in the Nankai Trough which is close to the site of the proposed exhibition . If that occurs, it is highly possible that the soft ground of Yumeshima Island will liquefy, causing extremely high levels of toxic pollution. In such an event, a tsunami would also be a distinct possibility, causing further damage and widespread pollution. To hold a large event on such a fragile, artificial island is dangerous for visitors. To make matters worse, huge amounts of taxation money is to be spent for infrastructural development. This will not be a simple expo event.

Please inform your government that many people of Osaka are opposing to casino expo. Please permit our impoliteness for sending this letter suddenly.

Sincerely yours.

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