



August 18, 2005
Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On the Attainment of the 15 Million Visitor Target
Statement by Shoichiro Toyoda, Chairman
Japan Association for the 2005 World Exposition

At around 10:15 a.m. this morning, the total number of visitors to EXPO 2005 reached 15 million.

This is the target number of visitors the Association had set for the entire duration of the Expo. With regard to the attainment of this goal with more than a month left to go, we owe in large part to the attractive and distinctive exhibits and events that official and domestic participants have presented along the theme of "Nature's Wisdom." We also believe that visitors appreciated the ongoing improvements we have been making to ensure a safe and comfortable Exposition. I would thus like to express my sincere gratitude to all those involved for the success with which we have been blessed.

Reaching of the targeted number of visitors certainly does not mean our job is finished. We will continue to do our utmost until the very last visitor leaves the site on the closing date of September 25 to make this first World Exposition of the twenty-first century a place of hope, wonderment, and excitement for all visitors.

I would thus greatly appreciate the continued warm support and cooperation of all concerned throughout the remaining period of the Expo.