

19 of December, 2018

Governo do Estado de Minas Gerais  
Secretaria de Estado de Casa Civil e de Relações Institucionais  
Assessoria de Relações Internacionais

To the person entrusted with the recruiting of trainees,

I am writing with regards to the recruitment process for the 2019 Local Government Officials Training Program (LGOTP).

Firstly, let me express my sincere gratitude for your ongoing cooperation with the LGOTP. Since the inception of the program in 1996, a total of 1,167 participants from local governments around the world have participated in the LGOTP. Without your kind assistance, this program would not be possible.

We are happy to announce that applications for the 2019 LGOTP are now being accepted. Please find in the attachment the “Trainee Invitation Guidelines” which explain the application procedures in detail.

One important selection criterion is the ability to be able to speak either conversational English or Japanese. However, in recent years, some trainees have not met this requirement, leading to difficulties with their ability to participate in and benefit from the program. This year, we ask that all those involved in recruiting participants bear in mind this important condition for participation.

Furthermore, we ask that you strongly encourage all successful candidates whose training will be conducted in Japanese to actively pursue language study before their departure. Even for those who will receive instruction in English or another language, Japanese is an important tool for communication in everyday life, and so we ask that candidates also make concerted efforts to study Japanese.

With your assistance, I am confident that we will be able to provide another generation of trainees with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live in and study at Japanese local governments.

Sincerely,

Kenji OGAWA

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